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20p

29th SEPTEMBER, 1979

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TONY CURRIE

'Glad to be back in Town'



TONY CURRIE'S back in London — and in his own Cockney language he ain't arf pleased.

"Life was becoming unbearable at Leeds. Not I hasten to add because of the club, or the fans. They were both great, but simply because my wife, who comes from London and loves the place as much as I do, was getting very depressed.

"It was purely personal domestic reasons that caused me to leave Leeds.

"The club was great to me even allowing me to move for £400,000, a more realistic transfer fee than some that have been flying around recently.

"Obviously, I regret leaving Leeds from a professional point of view because we finished fifth last season, qualified for Europe and now I'm dropping into the Second Division."

On the other hand Currie doesn't see the move as a gamble.

"I have tremendous respect for Tommy Docherty and I see no reason why Queens Park Rangers shouldn't go straight back to the First Division.

"We have some fine youngsters

like Glenn Roeder, Clive Allen and Billy Hamilton, and with David McCreery and Chris Woods and Bob Hazell there besides myself we have the nucleus of a fine side.

"There are also Ian Gillard, Don Shanks, Martyn Busby, Stan Bowles and Ernie Howe, who've been here a little longer and that makes for a pretty good squad.

"Maybe we'll need another couple of players but one thing's for sure Tommy Docherty won't hang back in the transfer market if the right player becomes available."

Currie isn't worried that dropping a Division could cost him his England place.

"Trevor Brooking and Ray Wilkins have both had to play in the Second and they managed to retain their sharpness and their England places. I think Ron Greenwood is very loyal like that.

"If I play well enough I'm sure he'll retain me in his squad, if I don't I can't expect to be in there anyway."

Currie is fortunate in that no matter how serious his off-the-field life became last season he was able to still reproduce his best

on a Saturday.

"Somehow I seem to forget about it all on the field and I still enjoy my football a great deal. It wasn't until the closing weeks of last season that I didn't really play as well as I should have done and I think at Leeds I played the best football of my career."

In answer to the familiar jibe that he hasn't always given total effort Currie replied sharply: "I always give 100 per cent and I think I blew that theory out of the window while I was at Leeds. I never gave less than my best and the knockers appreciated the fact.

"I'm looking forward to life in London again, not the night life because I'm not one for the bright lights, and I'm enjoying playing for The Doc. He's always laughing and joking, and he gets the best out of his players. He's a very amusing man and I'm sure there'll be a lot of laughs as well as good football at Loftus Road.

"I couldn't have hoped for a better debut after missing the opening games through injury. I scored in our 3-0 win against Fulham. Just the tonic I needed and I'm sure we will be there or thereabouts."

THIRD ROUND LEAGUE CUP SIX TOP CLASHES

THE Football League, who make the Second Round of their Cup a two-leg affair to ensure as many top clubs as possible win through, have got their wish. The Third Round draw sees six all-First Division clashes... although one wonders if this is, in fact, a good system, as the glamour of any Cup competition is, surely, to see David against Goliath matches.

Still, clubs' bank managers will be happy at the prospect of full or near-full houses next week. Holders NOTTINGHAM FOREST travel to MIDDLESBROUGH, arguably the most improved side in the First Division. It's always difficult to tip Brian Clough's men to lose, because it happens so rarely, but Teesside is confident Boro can cause an upset.

ARSENAL have knocked SOUTHAMPTON out of both domestic Cup competitions in recent seasons; will it be third time lucky for Saints? If The Gunners can find the form that smashed seven past Leeds in the last round, Saints will be in for a busy night.

NORWICH'S tie with MANCHESTER UNITED could be the most exciting of the lot, with plenty of attacking football. We may even see a replay here. The way CRYSTAL PALACE have started the season indicates WOLVES will need all of Emyln Hughes' Cup experience at Selhurst Park, although Crazy Horse's old pals at LIVERPOOL should see off plucky CHESTERFIELD at Anfield.

ASTON VILLA beat EVERTON in the 1977 League Cup Final after two replays and the two sides may need to meet again to decide the outcome this time. The Midlands battle between WEST BROM and COVENTRY looks a good prospect. Albion beat the Sky Blues 7-1 at the Hawthorns last season, but with Cyrille Regis injured their firing squad has not been anywhere as deadly recently.

Shocks? Well, BRISTOL CITY won't be relishing their visit to PETERBOROUGH. WEST HAM have been on the receiving end of a few Cup shocks and SOUTHEAST UNITED'S confidence is high after knocking out Bolton in the previous round. BRIGHTON have a tricky trip to NORTHAMPTON... Will one of these three First Division sides go out next week?

MANCHESTER CITY desperately need a good Cup run to justify all the Maine Road spending — and they could have had easier opponents than those famous Cup fighters SUNDERLAND.

Of the rest of the ties, BIRMINGHAM, NOTTS COUNTY, STOKE, Q.P.R. and PLYMOUTH should come through.

THE DRAW

Arsenal v Southampton; Aston Villa v Everton; Birmingham v Exeter; C. Palace v Wolves; Grimsby v Notts Co; Liverpool v Chesterfield; Man City v Sunderland; Mansfield v QPR; Middlesbrough v Nottm Forest; Northampton v Brighton; Norwich v Man Utd; Peterborough v Bristol City; Plymouth v Wimbledon; Stoke v Swindon; West Brom v Coventry; West Ham v Southend.



Youngster Clive Allen goes close for Q.P.R. against Leicester.

LONG-TIME Anfield favourite Emlyn Hughes will always have a soft spot for Liverpool. But the England defender was delighted when his new club, Wolves, were forced through ground improvements to postpone their first home League game of the season — which would have brought a reunion with his former Merseyside team-mates at Molineux.

"Liverpool were the last side I wanted Wolves to meet in an opening match," explains Emlyn.

and manage to topple them from their perch, but at the moment I must fancy my old club to retain the title.

"However, all my concentration is on Wolves, and I'm counting on my experience being of some value to them. I'll co-operate in every way I can with the men who are running our team, John Barnwell and Richie Barker, and there is nothing I would rather see than the return of great days to Molineux."

Certainly, nobody is better equipped than Hughes, 32, when it comes to leading trophy-winning teams. During his illustrious career at Anfield, Emlyn led Liverpool to more successes in League and Cup competitions than any Merseyside skipper in history, and he easily recalls which Cup triumph brought him most satisfaction.

"It was the European Cup Final in Rome, and a marvellous occasion not only for myself but for the team. Yet while that was a happy

Crazy Horse's new challenge



"From experience, I know how devastating my old club can be at any stage in the season, and I'm pleased Wolves will have time to settle down before taking them on.

"Here at Molineux, we've the players who can be moulded into a good team, and I'll look forward to us playing Liverpool later. We also proved we are not afraid to spend money by paying more than £1 million for Andy Gray from Aston Villa.

"Meanwhile, my immediate ambition is for Wolves to start gathering points as quickly as possible, and once we have got a total of 35 in the bag, we are guaranteed to stay in the First Division. After that, we will hope to go on improving, and try to eliminate conceding silly goals, as has happened in the past.

"Naturally, I had some regrets at leaving Anfield, where so much success has been achieved. And right up to the present time, any club that has designs on the First Division Championship must first consider how it can be taken away from Liverpool.

"Two clubs who were up among the leaders last term, Nottingham Forest and Arsenal, may find out some way in the future to copy some of the Liverpool methods

experience, I had an unsettling one last season when injury caused some people to predict that my career was over.

"Before last Christmas there was an eight-week spell when I had only three games of any importance — for England, Liverpool and Liverpool Reserves. A knee was giving me bother, but by December I was back in full-time training and in the first team at the start of the New Year."

Any critic who had written off the famous Liverpool warrior — nicknamed Crazy Horse — at that time obviously had little idea of the Hughes' capacity to fight back. With over 700 matches behind him for his club and England in an 11-year period, Emlyn spent many solitary hours in training sessions on a lonely beach near Liverpool, to prove his reputation at Anfield for being a fitness fanatic was well-founded.

Hughes sums up: "I was determined not to be written off. Then Ron Greenwood selected me in the squad for England,

and their summer tour and for the European Championship match against Denmark which meant a lot to me, and I approached this season with the thought that all was going well. I'm very fit, and enjoying every minute at Molineux."

New Lives for Old Stars



PETER THOMPSON

PETER Thompson had ten dazzling years at Liverpool, later moved on to Bolton Wanderers, then retired from the game in 1977 to buy a caravan site near Blackpool. But his skills will never be forgotten at Anfield or Burnden Park.

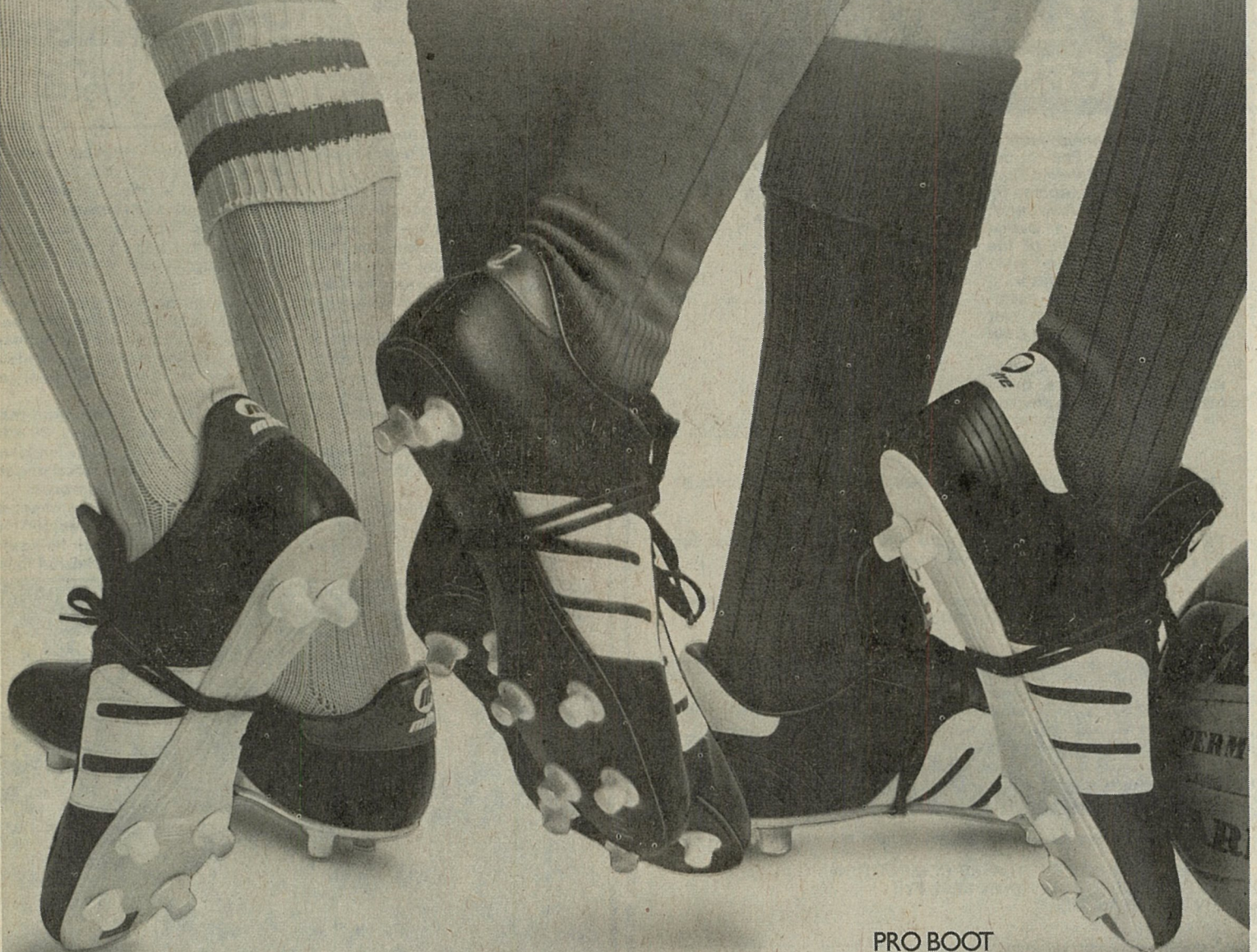
Thompson's feinting, darting runs and close ball control on the left flank made him a key-figure in the trophy-winning Liverpool teams managed by Bill Shankly. He had his most spell-binding years with the Merseysiders, suffered knee trouble, but recovered enough to be transferred to Bolton for a £20,000 fee. Wanderers originally took Peter on a four-week loan, and he started playing regularly in their first team in the second half of the 1973-4 season.

A great individualist in his playing style, Thompson vividly recalls the high spot of his career on the wing, when he turned in an epic performance in one of his eight matches for England against Brazil.

"The game was in Rio, and I really enjoyed myself. The crowd gave me a lot of encouragement during a match in which Brazil suddenly switched to a devastating attacking brand of soccer which carried them to a 5-1 win. But the two sides were closely matched for most of the time. Then came a 20-minute goal-burst by Pele and his colleagues that convinced me I would never appear against more talented performers than those 1964 Brazilians.

"And the most thrilling moment came for me after the final whistle — I received an ovation from the crowd on leaving the field. Coming from fans accustomed to seeing the finest football I took it as a tremendous compliment."

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1. Did Ray begin his League career at Halifax, Tranmere or Scunthorpe?
2. Against which country did Ray play half a game for England on their summer tour of 1979?
3. Ray has played in three F.A. Cup Finals at Wembley. How many winners medals has he received?

Prizes will be awarded for the first 65 correct replies received after the closing date. The competition is open to readers in the U.K., and Eire, except employees and their families of IPC Magazines Ltd., and the printers of SHOOT.

Closing date is Monday, 8th October, 1979. The result and winners' names will be published later in SHOOT.

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COLOUR

NAME.....

ADDRESS

AGE.....

THERE are three main reasons I'm delighted Liverpool have granted me a contract which could mean I stay at Anfield until the end of my days of playing first class football.

First, because they are the best club in Britain, bar none, with a tradition that cannot now be rivalled even by the Aston Villas, Arsenals and Manchester Uniteds.

Second, because it gives me the chance to collect further honours at club and international level.

And third, because I'll continue to be backed by fans I regard as the most loyal, sporting and enthusiastic.

Further proof of this came in the form of a stack of congratulatory letters from Liverpool supporters throughout the country, and even from abroad, after the news broke that I had signed-on for a further four years of hard but highly enjoyable labour at Anfield.

It's marvellous to feel you're "wanted" by the people whose opinions really count — those who come from far and wide, pay their money, and are often more knowledgeable about the game in every respect than many a professional critic.

One reader — John Bakewell of Leighton Buzzard — wonders whether the contract binds me for the full period of four years, or whether the club can transfer me in the meantime.

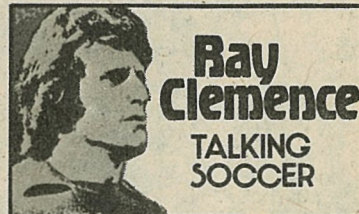
Yes, they can put me on the list, John, but I still have the right to refuse to move.

Fingers crossed, though, that I keep my form and steer clear of injury to ensure I hold my place in the team.

Another thing I'd like to point out, is that it's not the practice at Liverpool to receive a re-signing fee.

Whereas I've been lucky enough to be retained, another long-serving stalwart, Emlyn Hughes, has been allowed to depart for pastures new. Molineux, the home of Wolves, to be precise.

This inspired a letter from Martin Fairthorpe of Ashford, Kent, who wants to know: "Will the depar-



ture of Emlyn Hughes mean a change in style for your defence?"

Not at all, Martin. Our defensive pattern, evolved in season 1973-74 when Phil Thompson established himself after Larry Lloyd dropped out through injury, will remain the same.

It's based on two central defenders capable of holding the ball and using it constructively, instead of just bashing it hopefully upfield in order to free their goal of menace.

Emlyn, due to a wear-and-tear leg injury, managed only 20-odd games last season, and Alan Hansen worked up a very good understanding with Phil Thompson.

Realising his first team chances were limited, Emlyn decided to switch to Wolves where he could continue to play First Division foot-



Robbie Rensenbrink with the European Cup-Winners' Cup after beating West Ham in the 1976 Final.

'Liverpool could still put me on the list'

ball and so keep in the running for selection for the England squad.

Under his captaincy, Wolves made a great start to the season, notching a couple of wins, and chances are they won't be battling against relegation again — particularly after acquiring Andy Gray from Aston Villa for more than £1 million.

"Last season Liverpool won £50,000 from The Sun newspaper and Corals, the bookmakers, for scoring more than 84 goals. How was this handsome sum shared out?" asks Valerie Jackson, from Boston in Lincolnshire my home county.

It hasn't been touched yet, Valerie, simply because we're waiting for the Inland Revenue to sort out the tax situation. It's our intention then to make a large donation to charity and split up the rest of the money amongst ourselves.

"I'm looking forward to going along to watch your testimonial match against the Belgian club Anderlecht, which you announced in a previous column. Can you tell me the date it's due to be played?" That question comes from Anthony Burton of Sale, Cheshire.

Super Cup

It's set for Tuesday, April 29th, at Anfield, Anthony, but I've yet to receive written confirmation from the Belgians.

I had to be careful not to select a team we might meet in the European Cup competition, and settled on Anderlecht because they dispossessed us of the Super Cup — which we'd won the previous year by beating Kevin Keegan's Hamburger SV.

We met Anderlecht over two legs. I played in the first which we lost 3-1 on their ground but because of injury stood down for the return which we won at Anfield 2-1. So we lost on aggregate scores.

But because the home leg was played in thick fog, only about a third of the crowd actually saw the goals, so I thought it would be a good idea to replay "the game that never was".

Anderlecht have an impressive line-up containing several big stars, including Aarrie Haan, Robbie Rensenbrink and a new signing,

Austrian international Concillia.

"Kevin Keegan — whose column you followed — once confessed to being surprised at receiving a plaque instead of a medal after Liverpool won the Championship in 1973. Does the League still award them?" asks Andrew Pole of Swansea.

Yes, and I've just received my third!

Like Kevin, I was disappointed at first because I'd been under the impression I would get a medal, which I believe was the case for some years in the past. A medal is much more distinctive than a plaque.

But it's the League runners-up who get a raw deal — they receive nothing for their efforts, whereas the losers in a Cup Final are at least presented with a medal as a

memento.

Coming second in the League, after slogging through 42 games played in all sorts of conditions, is a much more difficult feat than losing a domestic Final.

The League could at least recognise this achievement by awarding them a different plaque.

"I play in goal for my school and youth club teams, and I'd like some tips on facing penalties, please," writes Mike Swales of Reading in Berkshire.

That's a tall order, Mike. I've devoted a whole chapter to that subject in my book "Clemence on 'Keeping'", so I can't do justice to it here.

However, here are some general tips.

Try to make yourself as large as possible, by spreading yourself and so giving the penalty-taker less of the goalmouth to aim for.

Unless you've got prior knowledge of how he prefers to take his kicks, then watch carefully the way he runs up to the ball, as this can often give you an idea of which side he's going to strike the ball towards.

Most kickers favour a hard shot so you're unlikely to get the chance to catch the ball with both hands. Just concentrate on getting a touch that will send it round a post for a corner.

Try not to allow the ball to rebound back into play, as it will give an opponent the chance for a second shot.

"Most players seem to be involved in some sort of business venture outside football, but you've never mentioned one. Don't you believe in lining up something for

when you eventually retire?" So writes Stan Murchison, a life-long supporter of us Reds from Ormskirk.

The reason I steered clear of outside business ventures, Stan, in the past was simply because I've seen so many players rush into something without doing their homework, with the result they've lost money and sleep.

And if you're worrying over business, you can't concentrate on your main job, playing football, and that can suffer.

But I've recently taken the plunge by becoming a partner in an express delivery service operated from Haydock just outside Liverpool. My partners are Dougie Livermore, once a team-mate at Liverpool and now playing for Chester, and a long-time friend Neil McCabe.

Our fleet of vans and lorries carry urgently-needed parcels and equipment from the Liverpool and Manchester areas to anywhere in Britain.

"Colin Irwin is a new name to me. He played as a replacement for Alan Hansen in your League match against West Brom, which you won 3-1. Was it his debut for the club, and can you tell me more about him?" asks Rita Morrison from Poole in Dorset.

First Game

Colin is a local-born lad who has graduated from the apprentices. Three or four seasons ago he played his first game for the senior side in a pre-season tour game against the Dutch side Utrecht. Since then Colin has been a substitute on many occasions without being called upon to play.

So against West Brom Colin at last made his League debut, at the age of 22.

He was a late choice, only informed he was playing after Alan Hansen failed a fitness test on a strained thigh on the Friday before the game.

Colin is very much in the Hansen mould: tall, slim, good in the air and with excellent ball control.

Unfortunately for Colin, Alan is first choice for the position on the left-of-centre, and providing he's fit it will be Alan who is lining up at Anfield against Norwich City for the League clash this Saturday against a team that has probably made its best-ever start to a season in the First.

The Canaries had a tremendous win in their opening game, versus Everton at Goodison Park, coming out on top by 4-2 — their first away win for something like two years.

Last season we beat them 6-0 at Anfield and 4-1 at Carrow Road. Although it's only fair to point out that Norwich inflicted on us one of our rare home defeats by beating us 3-1 in season 1975-76.

Meet me again next week —



'Colin Irwin's in the Alan Hansen mould'

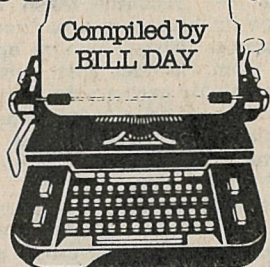
Ray Clemence

IT didn't take Ray Wilkins long to discover that joining Manchester United wins perks. Our columnist staggered away from Tottenham after their League Cup-tie carrying a portable colour television. A company gave one to the best player from each side — and judge Bobby Charlton chose Wilkins for United.

The following morning, the England midfield player went to collect a Vauxhall car which is being loaned to him for a year.

NEWS

Compiled by
BILL DAY



DESK

CRAZY'S HORSE

WOLVES' captain Emlyn Hughes received a 3,000 guineas present for his 32nd birthday, on August 28, when his Grand National horse Wayward Scot was sold at the Ascot Sales.

IS there an older souvenir in existence of an historic soccer occasion than one which Wolves retain? It is the ball used when their team of locals defeated Everton, at Fallowfield, Manchester, in the F.A. Cup Final 86 years ago.

THE determination of Berwick Rangers to maintain their place in the Scottish First Division following promotion last season was shown when the English club spent £5,000 on Hibs centre-half Rikki Fleming, who joined the Easter Road club two seasons ago from Ayr United.

The BIONIC boy striker

HOW about this for balance and style allied to shooting power. The complete schoolboy footballer? Wrong. Gary Wilson lacks one vital component. He has only one leg.

Our action picture of Gary, aged 12, disguises the fact that he plays football on one good leg — and an artificial steel limb moulded around a deformed leg and foot.

But Gary, who lives at Upper Poppleton, near York, is far from handicapped. He has just received permission from doctors and the Football Association to play football regularly.

Gary was born without bones in his right leg below the knee, but he was fitted with an artificial leg of steel.

He plays for a local youth team and admits to being naturally right footed.

"My false leg is the one I kick with. Now, I'm getting more power into my shots," he says.

His mother, Mrs Mildred Wilson, says: "He got fed up waiting on the sidelines watching his pals playing football."

The F.A. have ruled that so long as Gary has nothing protruding from his leg, and referees are happy, he can play football.



Scot NAREY target of English clubs

BRISTOL City have made several spying missions to Scotland to watch Dundee United's Scottish international star David Narey.

City's manager Alan Dicks is anxious to strengthen his back four at Ashton Gate and believes Narey (right) could plug the weakness.

But money is believed to be the main obstacle to City's hopes of bringing Narey South.

Dundee United want £500,000

for the 21-year-old, who can play in defence or midfield.

Southampton are also reported to be interested in him. Saints manager Lawrie McMenemy became interested after receiving glowing reports from Scotland's manager Jock Stein.

But McMenemy's interest was diverted to Manchester when he heard that Mike Channon was prepared to leave Maine Road and return to the South Coast.



WHO can afford to underestimate the value of practice. Crystal Palace winger Vince Hilaire was unhappy with his crosses in a recent game, so the day before they played Derby, "Vinny", full-back Ken Sansom and manager Terry Venables spent an hour after training working on centres.

The idea was for Hilaire to run at Sansom and cross the ball to the far post under pressure from the England defender. The next day, Vince laid on three of Palace's four goals against Derby in this fashion, including two headers for new boy Mike Flanagan.

McILROY helps crash victim

MANCHESTER United midfielder star Sammy McIlroy is helping in the fight to help a United fan recover from serious injuries received in a road accident.

Sammy is a regular visitor to the hospital bedside of Stephen Tyldesley, a 17-year-old fan from Eccles Road, Swinton, who is critically ill in Hope Hospital.

Stephen's mother says that Sammy's first visit helped her son recover consciousness.

"He had been more or less unconscious since the accident and we are grateful to United, who asked Sammy McIlroy if he would visit him."

"Immediately Sammy spoke to him he opened his eyes and said 'United'. He grabbed Sammy's hand and the nurses say that the improvement since the visit has been remarkable."

"We will never forget Sammy."

Eire in Europe

THE Republic of Ireland resume their European Championship campaign next month with a home tie

against Bulgaria. But next Wednesday (September 26th) they continue their build up with a friendly against Czechoslovakia in Prague.

Who better to provide the opposition than the current European Champions? And the Czechs are looking good to qualify for next year's Finals in Rome. The next outing for Josef Venglos' side is against Sweden on October 10th.

The Irish have mixed memories

about their clashes with the East Europeans. Eighteen years ago they suffered their worst defeat, going down 1-7 in Prague. However, in November, 1967, the Republic had a memorable 2-1 win at the same venue.

But little did they know that a disastrous run of 20 games without a win was just around the corner. Whatever the outcome of Wednesday's game, we doubt if it will signal the beginning of another such run for the Irish.

RON Atkinson, West Bromwich boss took a good look at Ian Benjamin, the 17-year-old midfielder player Sheffield United had introduced to their first team, and moved in fast.

Benjamin, born in Nottingham and brother of Notts County's Tristan Benjamin, had showed that he has the character and all round ability to make an impact at all levels.

For £125,000, Albion have got one of the most composed penalty takers in the business. In five games he took four penalties, three successful, the other struck the post and was cleared. At the time, Harry Haslam, Sheffield United's manager, said: "Give Ian more experience and he will be the best penalty taker in Britain!"

Benjamin goes with the England Youth squad to Yugoslavia in September and will earn extra cash for Sheffield United after playing 50 first team games with more to come if chosen for England.

ROGER Palmer, Manchester City's injured striker, is still not fit enough to resume training at Maine Road.

Palmer cracked a bone in his left leg in a private pre-season game against Stockport.

He had spent the summer coaching and playing in Cape Town, South Africa, where he scored three goals in four unbeaten matches.

A comeback in late October? A distinct possibility.

LITTLE Albion Rovers may become the first Scottish club to tour China. The Chinese may welcome a team such as Rovers, who admit they may be nearer their class than recent visitors W.B.A.

Watford's peace mission

NEWLY promoted Watford are not only attempting to make their mark on the field, but off it also.

This season, before each of their games, manager Graham Taylor has taken captain Dennis Booth along with him to meet the match officials, and point out that while he is in charge before and after the game, his captain takes charge on the pitch.

Booth welcomes the idea. "I think it's excellent on the boss's part. I've had my troubles with referees in the past, but I think this has all been borne out of misunderstandings. Meeting the refs before the game, gives me more responsibility and helps my game," he says.

One League referee, surprised by the appearance of both manager and captain in his room, commented: "It's certainly a very novel idea, and one which can do a lot of good. But I just wonder how long it is before the League stamps down on it."

WEST Bromwich Albion's shock 5-1 home defeat at the hands of Nottingham Forest was a bitter pill for Hawthorns fans to swallow. But it's happened before. The last time Albion conceded five goals in a League match at home was in 1968-69 against — Forest!

OVER TO 'BALLIE'

SOUTHAMPTON'S full-back David Peach is all set to hand back the captaincy to Alan Ball.

But David is far from disconsolate about losing the job he had undertaken in the first few weeks of the new season.

For the England B international defender reckons that "Ballie" is one of the best captains in the game.

"A born leader," says David. "He doesn't just play his own game. He gets everyone else going as well."

Peach was an emergency captain for Ball while the former England international played summer football in the North American Soccer League.

DERBY County's defender David Langan has moved house to Darley Abbey. David had no hesitation in moving his wife, Mandy, and new baby, Elliott, born on June 2, out of their old house. The Langan's still have fearful memories of pipes that burst, flooding the house last winter.

MORE domestic news from Derby, goalkeeper John Middleton's wife, Liz, has given birth to a baby boy. He weighed in at 7lb 5oz.

Scottish star sacked

CONTROVERSIAL former Celtic and Scotland superstar Jimmy Johnstone has been sacked by a little Highland League club for "drinking before a match".

Johnstone, aged 35, who won every domestic honour with Celtic and a European Cup medal in 1967 along with 19 full international caps, is reported to have broken a club rule and gone for a drink with two Elgin City team-mates before a match against First Division Clyde, which they won 3-2.

The little outside-right played in another match against Deveronvale, Elgin won, but Johnstone was then called before the directors and told of his dismissal along with his colleagues.

Johnstone, who was the highest-paid player in the Highland League, said: "I am really sick. The club have hit me below the belt. I have always played the game with them. Yes I went for a drink that night with several of the Ayr United players. But it was no late-night drinking session. We only had a couple."

HARTLEPOOL have released Ian Crumplin, a Wembley matchwinner in the F.A. Vase for Blue Star. The forward has joined Bishop Auckland in the Drybrough Northern League.

FACTastic

DURING the 1953 close season Sunderland made headline news when they paid out a sum of £65,000 for THREE international stars. Goalkeeper Jimmy Cowan, of Morton and Scotland cost £9,000; Ray Daniel, Arsenal and Wales centre-half £28,000 (record fee for a defender), and £28,000 secured Burnley and England left-winger Billy Elliott. By the New Year they had extended their transfer expenditure to more than £100,000 with the signatures of forwards Ted Purdon, from Birmingham, and Scot Ken Chisholm, from Cardiff City. Sadly, money did not buy success. Sunderland were beaten by Doncaster in the Third Round of the F.A. Cup and narrowly missed relegation, finishing fifth from bottom of the First Division.

Charlie urges League Cup change

CHARLIE George is hardly recognised as one of football's deepest thinkers.

He prefers to leave that to the administrators and gets on with the job of scoring goals for Southampton.

Now, Saints manager Lawrie McMenemy reveals the more thoughtful side of Charlie's nature on the subject of the League Cup.

Charlie reckons the competition, organised on a two-leg basis in the first two rounds this season, should

be regionalised in the early stages, like the Benson and Hedges Cricket Cup. The clubs could be divided into small Leagues, says Charlie, and the winners of each group would then compete on a knock-out basis.

"The idea has a lot of merit," admits Lawrie. "It would stimulate interest locally and bring in the crowds. Imagine what the attendances would be, for example, if Middlesbrough, Newcastle and Sunderland were all in the same group."

A sponsored walk for charity prevented Alan Rough from the embarrassment of reserve team football. The Scottish international 'keeper upset Partick Thistle manager Bertie Auld in the recent Premier match against Morton at Cappielow when he conceded two late goals from corner-kicks.

Auld wanted to drop Rough to the reserves, but had to change his mind because he had given the 'keeper permission to go on a sponsored walk along with world lightweight Champion Jim Watt on the same day!



WALSALL made a bright start in their bid to regain Third Division status but their new player-manager, Alan Buckley, was none too pleased with his own form.

Following the first few games he said: "I feel I am letting the lads down because I haven't scored a goal."

"I thrive on goal-getting and it is vital for Walsall and myself that I get a lot of goals this season. It seems that I will just have to adjust to the problems of management."

COVENTRY City, winners of the first Skol Festival Tournament, will be invited back to Edinburgh next summer to defend their trophy. The tournament is expected to be run on different lines, however, with knock-out matches replacing the League system. The other three clubs who competed were Hibs, Hearts and Manchester City.

DESPITE their disappointing season when they narrowly missed relegation Derby County still managed to make a profit of more than £217,000 during the 1978-79 campaign.

A pedigree midfield trio. Introducing from left to right, 'bite yer legs' Thumper, 'up and at 'em' Kim, and Gerry Francis. Crystal Palace's former England player is teaching his Alsations that football is better played on two legs than four — and that Kim should never turn her back on the ball!



Arnold Muhren, Ipswich's Player of the Year, received his trophy from Supporters Club official Ray Egan (left) before the club's game at Wolves. Manager Bobby Robson (right) clearly agrees with the verdict.

NOBBY

WHAT'S ALL THIS LOT THEN?



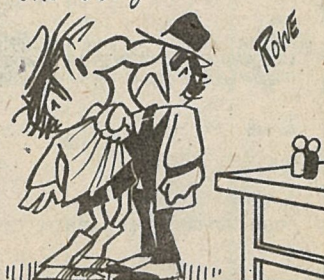
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OH PARDON ME, I THOUGHT IT WAS 'COME DANCING'!



NICE OF YOU TO ASK ME, BUT I THINK I'LL SIT THIS ONE OUT!



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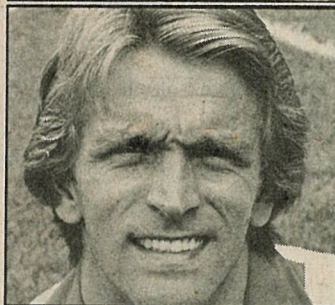
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THE HAMMERS'



REUNION

FANS at this week's Second Division clash between Orient and Birmingham could be forgiven for thinking they have wandered into nearby Upton Park by mistake.

For the game offers something of a West Ham re-union, with four former Hammers favourites on the pitch.

Orient parade 'keeper Mervyn Taylor (top left) defender Tommy Taylor (top right) and striker Billy Jennings (bottom left). Birmingham midfielder star Alan Curbishley (bottom right) — and all four were team-mates at West Ham last season.

They left during the summer when Hammers boss John Lyall had a big clear-out.

All remain the best of friends. But that friendship will mean little for 90 minutes as they battle for precious points to help their reshaped sides build a solid foundation for the season ahead.

Curbishley, who cost Blues £225,000, has great responsibility on his young shoulders. For St. Andrews fans expect him to play an influential part in getting their famous club back to the First Division at the first attempt.

It is a tall order. But Curbishley won't hide from it and has shown signs of settling down in his new surroundings remarkably quickly.

That does not surprise Tommy Taylor, who cost the O's £70,000 when he went back there from West Ham.

"They say if you are a good player you can play well anywhere — and Alan is a hell of a good player," says Taylor.

"I have always had the highest regard for his ability and I'm sure all West Ham fans must have been sorry to see him go.

"He has lots of skill and flair — what you might call a typical West Ham player. It's a pity he never got

on with certain people there and was forced to leave.

"I know he did not want to go. But West Ham's loss is Birmingham's gain and I expect him to give us plenty of problems on Saturday (September 22nd).

"Like Orient, Birmingham have changed their side a lot this season. This is probably why they have had some up and down performances so far.

"Consistency only comes with a settled side, who have been together for a while. We have found the same thing here at Brisbane Road.

"Our own results are not as good as we would have hoped. But there are distinct signs that a pattern is emerging and we are all encouraged by the way things are going.

"We three Hammers lads have no regrets about coming to Orient. It's a smashing set-up here.

"I'm sure Alan feels the same about Birmingham and, like us, he must fancy his chances of having a big say in the promotion issue.

"With both teams feeling their way a bit it's hard to predict what will happen — and although you won't be surprised to discover that I'm tipping Orient to win.

"Whatever the result I'll be sorting out Alan after the game to buy him a drink. I've got a lot of respect for him as a fellow, as well as a player, and always got on well with him.

"But between three o'clock and twenty to five on Saturday I'll act as though he's a complete stranger."

You can believe that if you like — we at SHOOT certainly don't.

Taylor is one of the few men around who still seeks to find enjoyment from football and you can bet he'll be having a laugh and joke with Curbishley during the game.

NO luck on the international front again with the name of D. McGrain Esq. missing from the Scottish pool to take on Peru in the match at Hampden.

So I missed the chance to gain revenge on the nation who shattered a Scottish dream over a year ago in the World Cup Finals in Argentina.

'Still hoping for a Scotland recall'

But I have not yet given up hope of winning back my place in the Scotland defence... after all I still have plenty of time on my side!

I will keep playing away to the best of my ability and hope my old boss Jock Stein can see his way to giving me my chance.

In the meantime heartiest congratulations to team-mate Roy Aitken on his call-up to the full squad after an extended run in the Under 21 squad.

Roy really deserved the honour for he is a great all round player who would no doubt do justice to the Scottish team if they even played him in goal.

He has played superbly for Celtic at sweeper... and could no doubt do a turn for Scotland in the same spot.

When I get a bit older I certainly would not mind a run in the sweeper position — even for Scotland. After all, it would appear to be experience that counts when you play as 'libero'.

Roy and Martin Buchan, who has played there all his career, are the exceptions to the rule. But the great sweepers, Beckenbauer and the rest, have been over the course and can read the game like a book.

And my Old Firm opponent and pal Sandy Jardine does a great job anywhere in the back line and has been known to show a fine line in style as sweeper.

Indeed Sandy is playing so well that he won a recall to the Scotland squad.

Congratulations too to Dundee United manager Jim McLean who won reward for all his fine work at Tannadice.

Jim was appointed assistant boss of the national team to Jock

Stein for the Peru game and it could lead to big things for him.

He has worked hard on Tayside and done so well that people expect him one day to go on to bigger things. The Scotland job perhaps?

Tartan Talk

DANNY McGRAIN



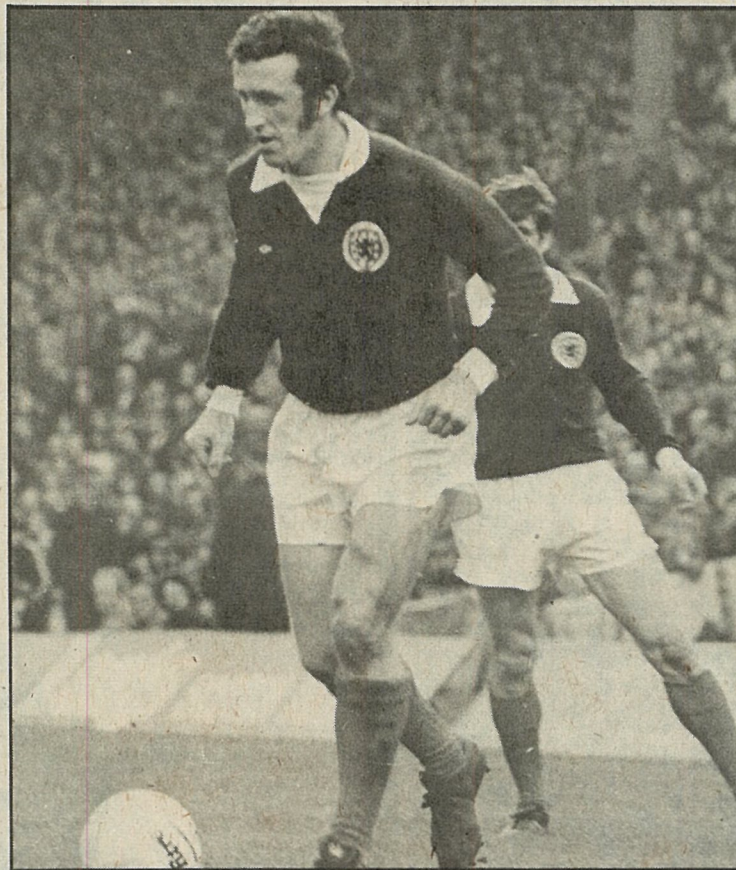
Well, players love to go on international duty to get away from the run of the mill League duty for a spell and that must apply to managers too.

The break will do the United boss good and it may well pay off for the club too with his international experience. It could bring him a new lease of life after his

involvement in the transfer market.

Involvement that brought the £400,000 transfer of Ray Stewart to West Ham, thus making him Scotland's most expensive soccer export after Kenny Dalglish.

Good luck to the lad, but United got a good price and they proved in their first match without him that they have good cover in Billy



Kirkwood. And what price Kenny Dalglish now?

I really think the transfer market has gone berserk with a £1.4 million tag on the talents of Steve Daley. Where will it all end... because mark my words it has to — somewhere.

Accountants reckon that if the clubs had to produce all the money owed in fees it just could not be done, so really we are just toying with pretend figures now.

One transfer I did applaud was the coming and going of former Scotland team mate Asa Hartford. Man City to Forest — just time to unpack the boots — and on to Everton.

Well I reckon Briani Clough was cruel to be kind and his honesty did Asa a real favour. At first it must have been a real body blow to the player to think that he had been rejected so soon, but Clough was honest enough to see it was not going to work out and didn't waste a year or so of Asa's career before letting him move on.

Asa's bank manager won't be complaining about it all either... but seriously I will bet the money hardly came into it.

Rated

And talking of money, or rather its absence, what about Andy Gray's transfer dealings with Wolves?

The Scotland striker was rated at £1.5 million plus in the deal and he didn't get a penny out of it because he asked Aston Villa for a transfer.

Us Drumchapel lads from the North West side of Glasgow are seldom out of the news when it comes to football headlines, but Andy's dealings with Wolves really had me going.

Yet as I was saying earlier it is all really pretend money, for Wolves wanted to spend the cash they got from Manchester City for Steve Daley and so the cycle goes on.

See you in two weeks...

Danny McGrain

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN TALK BY RANGERS' DEREK JOHNSTONE

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NEXT WEEK...

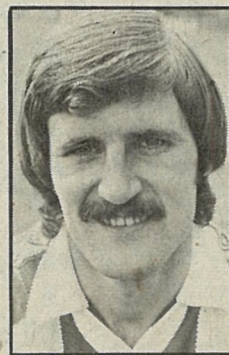
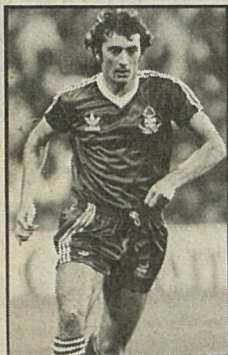
In full colour: Arsenal and Notts County team groups; Jimmy Neighbour (Norwich); Focus on Tommy Booth (Manchester City); and Archie Gemmill (Birmingham), Derek Fazackerley (Blackburn), Mike Docherty (Sunderland), Leighton Phillips (Swansea) featured in our Captains Booklet.

NEXT WEEK...

Features: Comment on England's recent European Championship tie v. Denmark + Club Spotlights on

Arsenal and Notts County + A look at the Scottish transfer scene + Steve Daley (Man.City), Peter Barnes (West Brom), Trevor Francis (left, Nottm. Forest) and John Gregory (Brighton) — Club Record Fee Men + West Ham's new signing from Dundee United Ray Stewart + Ken Swain (Aston Villa) + Joe Gallagher (Birmingham) + Jim Fleeting (Ayr) + Aiden McCaffery (Derby) + Stuart Boam (Newcastle) + Dave Hatton (Bury boss) + Ted MacDougall (Bournemouth) + Brendan O'Callaghan (right, Stoke) + Paul Madeley (Leeds United) + all your usual favourites.

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Record dismissals

What is the greatest number of players ever sent-off in an international?

**WILLIAM OWEN,
NEWARK.**

● Highest I can trace, William — and I reckon it would take a lot of beating — is NINETEEN.

That was in a Chile v. Uruguay game on 25th June, 1975.

After a wild free-for-all, the ref sent-off ten Chileans and nine Uruguayans.

As the match had to be abandoned, no score went down in the records — though I suppose you could say Uruguay won by two players to one!

Exeter international

Has any player ever received an international cap while on Exeter City's books?

**PAUL BYRNE,
EIRE**

● Yes, Paul, and for your own country, too.

Striker Dermot Curtis played in 17 full internationals for the Republic of Ireland, the last of which — a 0-0 European Championship draw with Austria in Vienna on 25th September, 1963 — was while an Exeter player.

Smallest

Who's the smallest player ever to have played in a Football League match?

**STEPHEN YOUNG,
PRESTON.**

● You'd have to look hard to find anyone shorter than a right-winger named Frankie le May, Stephen.

He played for the now-defunct Thames, Watford, and Orient in the early 1930's — and was just five feet tall.

Smallest to play for England, incidentally, was another outside-right — Tottenham's 5ft. 3ins. "Fanny" Walden — who was capped both before and after World War One.

Case debut

Against whom did Liverpool's Jimmy Case make his League debut, and when did he score his first League goal?

**ALISON SPURGEON,
MALVERN.**

● He took his bow, Alison, in the last League game of 1974-75 — playing in the 3-1 home win over Q.P.R. on 26th April.

Jimmy's first League goal came in his second game — the 3-2 home defeat of Spurs the following 23rd August.

England/Italy

I'd like to know the result of the first full international between England and Italy, and who's won the most since?

**MARCUS JONES,
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.**

● First-ever game was a 1-1 draw in Rome on 13th May, 1933, Marcus.

Since then, there have been 12 more games — the full tally being six wins for England, three for Italy, and four draws.

Supernac's

Supergoals

How many goals did Malcolm MacDonald score for England?

**KENNETH EDWARDS,
SCUNTHORPE**

● The likeable "Supernac", now sadly retired, scored six times in his 14 full internationals, Kenneth — the highlight being his five goals in England's 5-0 Wembley beating of Cyprus in a European Championship tie on 16th April, 1975.

He also scored four goals in four Under-23 games.

Triple Champions

Has any team done what Liverpool hoped to do last season — win the European Cup three times running?

**RAMESH GOWDA,
HUDDERSFIELD**

● Yes, three have done it, Ramesh — including Real Madrid who won the European Cup in each of its first FIVE years (1956 to 1960 inclusive).

After that, Ajax won it in 1971, 1972, and 1973 — followed immediately by Bayern Munich in 1974, 1975, and 1976.

Also, like Liverpool (1977 and 1978), both Benfica (1961 and 1962) and Inter-Milan (1964 and 1965) have had two wins in succession.

SHORT PASSES

● Hamburger SV's Kevin Keegan joined Liverpool from Scunthorpe United on 10th May, 1971.
(**SYLVESTER JINADU, Nigeria**)

● The only time a non-English club has won the F.A. Cup was in 1927 — when Cardiff beat Arsenal 1-0 in the Final.
(**DAVID FLATMAN, Tunbridge Wells**)

● Wrexham's highest-ever finishing position in the League is 15th in Division Two last season.
(**OWAIN GWILYM, Wrexham**)

● England's most-capped player is Bobby Moore with 108 full internationals. Most goals have been scored by Bobby Charlton — 49 in 106 full internationals.
(**BRIDGET JONES, Cleveland**)

● The world's first-ever official international was a 0-0 draw between Scotland and England in Glasgow on 30th November, 1872.
(**GRAEME PERRY, Gateshead**)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

A MAN with a mission — that's Cambridge United striker Alan Biley. The prolific goalscorer whose goals gave Cambridge a respectable position in the Second Division last season, is wanted by top clubs throughout England.

The slim, small striker with the curly hair wants to play First Division football one day.

"I want to see whether I am good enough. Testing yourself against the best in the business is what it's all about and I'd love the chance," he says.

But Biley also knows he has a duty to Cambridge United. And he certainly doesn't intend to start any sharp practice in a bid to get away and join a top First Division club.

"That would be ridiculous, absurd for the club and for me," he says. "John Docherty, the man-

concern. All I want to do now is to keep scoring goals for the side and show I'm a regular goalscorer, to anyone who is watching. That's all I can do in fairness to myself and Cambridge United."

Ambitious Cambridge came up from Division Three into last season's Second Division. Everyone said they would struggle to stay there — but they never really looked like sliding into relegation trouble. Biley says: "We surprised a few sides. People thought we would find it hard but we didn't."

This season, says Biley, the pattern is changing at Cambridge. "I think the boss wants us to try and knock it around more, to play some attractive football," he says. "We always used to kick it out of defence and do all the work in the last third of the field, after we'd chased the long clearances from defence. Now, that is changing and we are starting to play some good stuff."

The debt Biley owes to Cambridge

ager, has been too fair for that. He knows I want to play in the First Division sooner rather than later but he also counts on me for goals. I don't intend to let Cambridge down as long as I'm playing for them.

"Doing well for Cambridge United is the only way to draw attention. If I score plenty of goals, I'm bound to be watched."

In fact, Biley has already been the subject of transfer talk. Last season, Tottenham moved into the hunt for a goalscorer and they saw enough from Biley to convince them he was the man for the job at White Hart Lane.

The sum involved was a cool £280,000 — and Cambridge's refusal, was an even cooler response. That shocked many observers who thought the small Second Division club would sell.

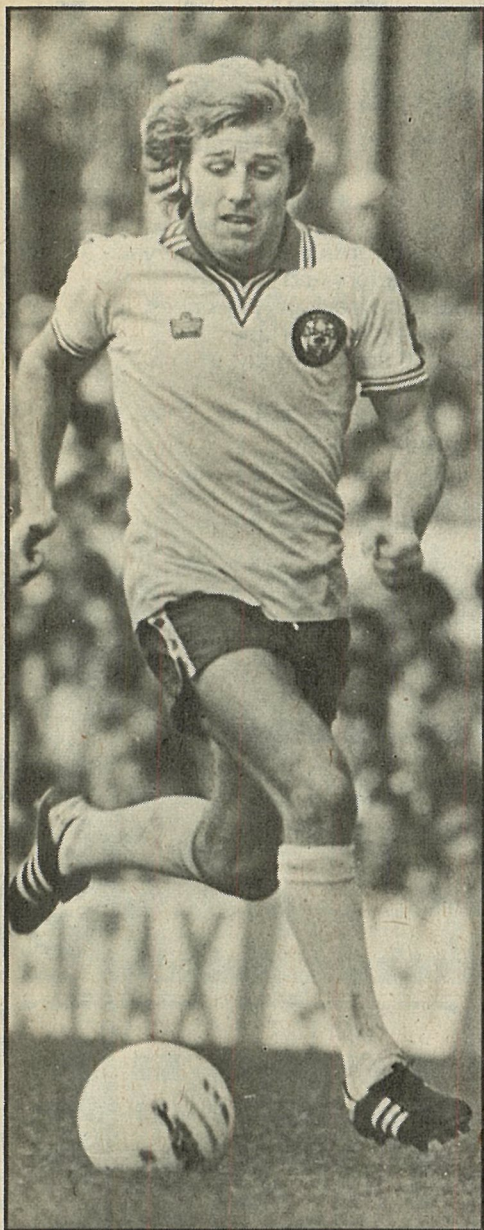
Biley says: "I don't know why they rejected it. But that's not my

"This club is very ambitious and although we might be limited for top class facilities and support, we are going places. I don't think it is beyond our means to build the club into a top outfit, particularly after our start when we were in seventh place after four games."

Whether Biley will still be with the club if they achieve their ambitions remains to be seen. Manager John Docherty, the former Brentford skipper who has done such an astute job in guiding the club's fortunes, may well decide the big money deal likely from any sale of Alan Biley could be used to help finance some other part of their development. That much, it seems, is for the future.



Heads! Biley wins a mid-air tussle in Watford's penalty-area this season.



BIG MATCH

GROSTALK

**BRIGHTON
v.
SOUTHAMPTON**

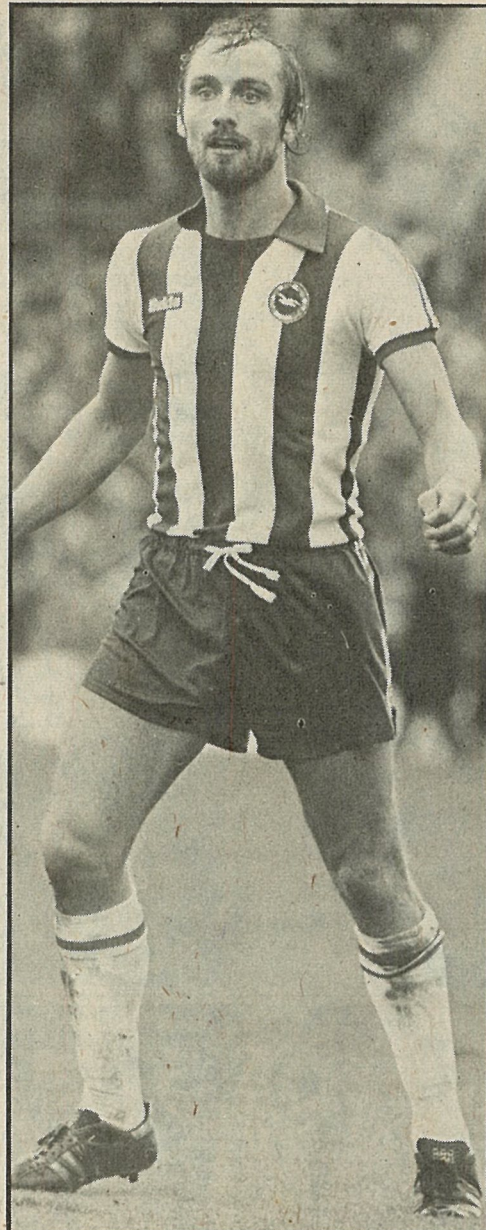
at the
Goldstone Ground
SATURDAY
22nd SEPTEMBER

[illegible]

'We're still adjusting to life in the 1st Division'

— **BRIAN HORTON**
(Brighton)

**'Yes, but you
are good enough
to survive'
— PHIL BOYER
(Southampton)**



BOYER: Your indifferent start to the season will mean nothing when we clash at your place on Saturday. We know you will make things hot for us.

HORTON: You can bank on that, Phil. We have not really done ourselves justice in the First Division yet — and that's something we are desperately anxious to put right. You can imagine how relieved everyone at the Goldstone Ground was when we achieved our first victory since promotion against Bolton at home at the beginning of the month.

BOYER: It's always tough in new surroundings and that first win is very important. Now you've got a couple of points in the bag the pressure will be off and you'll be on your way.

HORTON: That's the way we feel about it. We have too many good players to really struggle and we showed what we are capable of with our display at Villa a couple of weeks ago. We got beaten 2-1 there, but played really well and deserved something from the game.

BOYER: It's two years since we last met — in the Second Division. But you still have the nucleus of that side. It's a good all round team — certainly good enough to survive comfortably.

HORTON: What we have got to do is adjust to the requirements of First Division football. We are, of course, facing a better class of player and any errors are punished more readily.

BOYER: That's right, Brian, and I just hope you make some on Saturday for me and the lads to cash in on.

HORTON: You must be joking pal! You are the last person in the world we can afford to be charitable to. I've been playing against you for many years — when you were at Bournemouth and I was with Port Vale . . . so I know exactly what you are capable of. Our lads got chatting recently when Brighton and Southampton were on the same train back from the North and they all said what a good player you are and how they would have you in any team of theirs.

BOYER: You have not done so badly yourself as it happens. And there will be a lot of good players out on the park on Saturday. You have several in your side and one that impresses me tremendously is Peter O'Sullivan, who seldom gets the praise and publicity he deserves.

HORTON: Yes, he does a steady, if unspectacular, job and is a vital member of the team. And what about the players you can call on? Apart from yourself there's Steve Williams, a brilliant prospect, Chris Nicholl, a tremendous pro — and now you have Charlie George back to full fitness, what a class player he is.

BOYER: Absolutely. He can be world class on his day and our boss, Lawrie McMenemy pulled off a real coup when he signed him.

HORTON: And we are not forgetting that Alan Ball will be back from America and leading you again for this match. He adds a bit to your game, doesn't he?

BOYER: He certainly does. Ballie's a great influence on us and his return should help to give us a settled side. That's something we could not

get in the opening games.

HORTON: Will he captain the side?

BOYER: Oh, yes, unless Lawrie McMenemy has a rush of blood. That's unlikely, for you couldn't get a cooler boss. David Peach has done a good job as skipper, but 'Ballie' is the obvious choice. He's a natural leader, Brian, just like yourself.

HORTON: Thanks for the tribute. But it's the toughest job in the world, especially when you have been promoted to the First Division for the first time in your life. Not only do I have to make the right decisions, but have to play well to justify my place in the team. This is the 'big one' as far as South Coast fans are concerned. It's a local derby and creates a very special kind of atmosphere.

BOYER: Exactly. Past results mean absolutely nothing when this one comes around. There's a friendly rivalry between the clubs and I hope the same feeling exists among both sets of supporters. Interest is certainly sky high when we clash. We had two great games in the Second Division two years ago — both drawn — and as you don't give too much away at home we are prepared for a right old battle.

HORTON: We hope to have picked up some more points by the time you arrive. But we will still be looking for a couple more — that's always our target in home games. And if they should come against you they will be all the more welcome. They will certainly help ease the pressure a little. Anyway, see you Saturday, Phil. Look forward to a great game.

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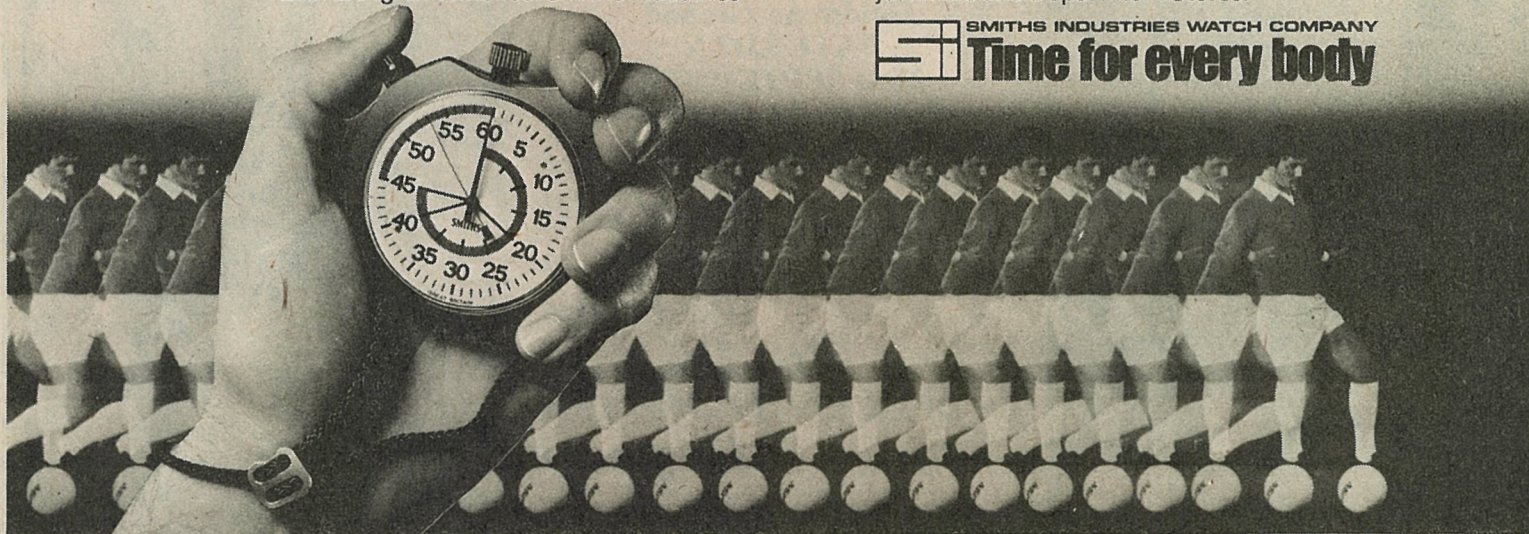
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It was rather like pushing the host out and then having a party in his house. Vancouver Whitecaps had beaten the Cosmos twice in their Giants Stadium, the second time in the play-offs, to earn a place in the Final . . . at the Cosmos' home. The North American Soccer League doesn't have a neutral ground like Wembley or Hampden and the Final is played at the Cosmos' ground.

This, of course, is a huge help to the Cosmos and most people expected them to retain their crown. It didn't quite work out that way and Vancouver met, and beat, the Tampa Bay Rowdies 2-1 before a crowd of just over 50,000, most of them Cosmos fans who had come to boo the Whitecaps.

It gives you an idea of how big and important the Cosmos are that their defeat has more consequences than the Whitecaps' victory. The Cosmos took their defeat badly; their top men blamed Welsh commissioner Phil Woosnam because he (rightly) banned Carlos Alberto from playing after spitting in the face of a linesman as a gesture of dissent. The Cosmos thought the ban unjust; Woosnam, as head of the NASL, had the courage to show he isn't a puppet, manipulated by a club who have grown almost bigger than the American game.

None of this should detract from the Whitecaps' victory, because they thoroughly deserved it. They are, essentially, a British side, coached by Tony Waiters. Their two "American" players are Buzz Parsons, a Canadian full-back and Sam Lenarduzzi, another Canadian defender. So . . . the Champions of the North American Soccer League had no players from the United States in their line-up.

Trevor Whymark, well-known to East Anglia supporters, scored



Vancouver's two goal hero, Trevor Whymark scores his first against Tampa.

NASL Champions have no American players

both the Vancouver goals, one in each half, but the man of the match was Alan Ball, who showed the sort of energy and commitment that have become his hallmark.

Jan Van Der Veen equalised for the Rowdies and Tampa may have had a penalty when the ball struck John Craven's hand. The referee judged that the ball hit the player's hand accidentally; Rodney Marsh, the Tampa skipper, was cautioned for arguing.

It wasn't a good afternoon for Rodney. Last year he missed the Soccer Bowl Final through injury and was annoyed that coach Gordon Jago didn't give him sufficient backing. Many thought Marsh was feigning. This year, after a poor performance, Marsh was substituted and this brought a verbal attack on his coach from the player. Not that it necessarily mattered, as this was Rodney's last game for the Rowdies prior to his testimonial a week later.

Vancouver joined the NASL in

VANCOUVER			
PARSONS	KENYON	PARKES	CRAVEN
BALL	LEWINGTON	VALENTINE	LENARDUZZI
HECTOR	WYMARK	JOHNSTON	
SUB: BOLITHO		SUBS: BARALIC, GRNJA	
MARSH	FABBIANI	WEGERLE	
VAN DER VEEN	McLEOD	ANDERSON	
GORMAN	KITCHENER	ANDRUSZEWSKI	
CONNELL	BILECKI		
TAMPA			

1974 and have grown stronger steadily. Their average gate at the Empire Stadium has shot up from 3,000 to 24,000 and while Waiters has built a strong team, the man behind the Whitecaps is president and general manager John Best.

Like the Cosmos, Vancouver have, to a large extent, bought their success. Best took over in 1977 and his first job was to hire Waiters. The former Blackpool goalkeeper had been a coach at Liverpool and Coventry before becoming manager of Plymouth.

Waiters wanted a British team

and the Whitecaps were soon digging into their resources to find the dollars to buy Trevor Whymark (£150,000), Roger Kenyon (£100,000), Carl Valentine (£70,000), Willie Johnston (£100,000) and Ray Lewington (£35,000). That's a total of almost half a million pounds; modest by current British standards, but a lot of cash in Canada.

Mid-way through 1979, Waiters acquired Alan Ball after the Southampton man fell out with Philadelphia Fury. Ballie may be 34, but he is still a midfield player of the

highest class and he was voted Player of the Play-offs by the American Press.

At least Vancouver's success has given the other 22 NASL clubs hope. There were fears that the League was turning into a Cosmos-and-the-rest set-up. Even though Cosmos are still the team with the players, they aren't Champions and one wonders what they will do next year to ensure supremacy. One thing's for certain: money is the least of their problems.

In 1980, there will be no loan players from the Football League to the NASL and it will be interesting to see what effect this has. As Vancouver had only one loaner, Alan Ball, it seems to indicate that while many NASL clubs rely on borrowed stars, they aren't really necessary to win the title.

**SOCCER IN THE STATES WILL BE
BACK NEXT YEAR.**

NO PLAYER was more shocked at Asa Hartford's transfer from Forest to Everton than Asa himself.

Just three months after his £500,000 move from Manchester City to the City Ground, the Scottish international was on his way to Goodison for £100,000 less.

The first the players knew of the deal was at tea-time on the evening of our League Cup-tie at Blackburn Rovers.

I was going down the stairs from my room at the hotel to have tea, when I saw Asa coming up, dressed in his best suit.

I asked why he wasn't wearing a track-suit like the rest of the players and he replied: "Because I'm not playing tonight. I've just signed for Everton."

Asa's a bit of a joker so I just laughed. But he went on: "No, it's true, Spider — that's my nickname at Forest — their manager Gordon Lee made an approach, Brian Clough was prepared to let me go, so I signed."

Obviously I don't know what went on behind the scenes, but as Peter Taylor told the Press, Asa simply didn't fit into the Forest system and he and Brian Clough wouldn't change that system which has proved so successful.

While he was stunned by the suddenness of the transfer, I know Asa was grateful to the boss and Peter Taylor for being honest and releasing him straight away rather than keep him hanging on at the City Ground where there would not be a future for him.

Anyhow, he's gone from one

great club to another, which is not too far from his home in Wilmslow.

I feel I must stress there was no trouble between Asa and the rest of the lads at the City Ground. We all got along well with him, which is one reason for our success.

As promised last time I'll now introduce you to my team-mates at Forest . . . probably the friendliest bunch in the First Division.

Where better to start than with goalkeeper PETER SHILTON.

Shiltie is worth 12-14 points a season to Forest. Yes, he's that good.

Bias

People often ask if I think he's better than Ray Clemence. I don't usually comment on such issues in case I'm accused of bias. But I'll tell you this, I'd hate to be England manager Ron Greenwood and have to choose between them.

Peter is a very nice, easy going feller. I've rarely seen him lose his temper, except when he's having a go at me for making a mistake, or arguing with David Needham.

The pair are room-mates, always having friendly "goes" at each other. The rest of the lads call them "Mork and Mindy" after the comedy series on telly.

Shiltie is a fitness fanatic and often trains alone after the rest of the lads have gone home and comes in on the team's day off.

I'll sometimes join him for extra shooting practice. I have fun beating him.

Although he's one of the lads, I



Skipper John McGovern, and his wife Ann, enjoy art . . . like this Lowry painting "Going To The Match".

wouldn't say Peter is a joker. The man Brian Clough has described as "the best 'keeper in the world" would rather sit reading a book . . . or arguing with DAVID NEEDHAM. Defender Dave, is called "Tommy" because he looks like singing star Tom Jones.

Dave's a quiet lad but a very busy one. He owns a small farm in Leicestershire and goes there most days after training.

Ian Bowyer calls him "Pig Farmer".

My full-back partner is FRANKIE GRAY, who joined the club from Leeds during the summer.

As I told you last time, Frankie settled down very quickly at Forest. At the moment he's in the process of moving to the area. We are fortunate to have a player of his experience.

Frankie is always telling jokes, some new, mostly old, and has a dry sense of humour.

Centre-half LARRY LLOYD is having an outstanding season. He's been our best player so far this term.

He's a gentle giant . . . until his temper is roused, which isn't very often. Most times people keep out of his way. Larry is too big to argue with, anyway.

His favourite pastimes are golf and reading. He'll look at anything John Robertson, another bookworm, puts his way. From Playboy to The Rise And Fall of the Roman Empire.

Winger JOHN ROBERTSON is the real comedian of the side. He's always cracking jokes. Robbo forms a Laugh-In trio with his room-mate on trips Martin O'Neill and Ian Bowyer.

Off the park John loves Roxy Music, and his hero is singer Bryan Ferry. He never stops singing Bryan's latest hit "Angel Eyes". The rest of the lads are sick of the sound of it.

Robbo is also a film fan, especially those starring Clint Eastwood. John's pal MARTIN O'NEILL is

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MY SOCCER
WORLD
**Viv
Anderson**



(Above) "Wild-man" Kenny Burns
has been tamed.

(Right) Garry Birtles.



'FOREST HAVE HITLER ON THEIR SIDE'

called "The Squire". I don't know why. Someone just called him that one day and the name has stuck.

Martin, a Northern Ireland international, and one of the most underrated players in the game, has another characteristic famous in football. His laugh. Honestly, it's peculiar... like a leaking gas cylinder that you can't shut off.

He's good at impersonations, especially the Benny Hill character Fred Scuttle.

The other partner of the Robbo, O'Neill show is IAN BOWYER.

"Bomber", a nickname given to him by his former manager at Forest Allan Brown, because it goes with Bowyer, lives down the road to me.

I'm often round Ian's house, playing with the kids, begging a cup of tea from his wife Chris, or borrowing something... usually one of his shirts.

Ian has gained a reputation for being the game's Super Sub because of the number of times he's been our number 12, and then come on to win matches.

There was a report at the start of

the season that he was going to leave Forest for a club that could guarantee him regular first team football, but I'm glad to say he's now signed a new contract.

Another of the game's "nice guys" is our England striker TONY WOODCOCK.

There's nothing extrovert about Woodie. You sometimes have to shake him to make sure he's awake — and that's when he's standing up.

He might be quiet, but Tony is certainly one hell of a player.

Now did you know Forest have "Hitler" in their forward-line? It's true... that's what we call striker GARRY BIRTLES because he looks like the War-time German leader.

He doesn't like the tag, so some of the lads have decided on another nickname... Charlie Chaplin, after the silent film star of the 1920's.

Garry is the trendy one of the team. He likes to wear all the latest gear.

He's also a pop record fan and owns a tremendous collection.

Our Hitler has certainly made a

sensational impact on the game, but he might find it tougher this season.

Now rival defenders know his game and how he plays. This will be the telling year for Garry.

Alongside Garry we have TREVOR FRANCIS, another quiet, but friendly sort.

Away from the game, Trev is a big ELO fan. His best friend is Geoff Lynne, the group's lead singer.

Trev came into the ground the other day with a load of ELO tee-shirts, plugging their latest album 'Discovery'. Great disc, super tee-shirt.

We even got the skipper JOHN MCGOVERN to wear one.

John is one for the finer things in life. He enjoys art, especially Lowry paintings, champagne and good food.

The skipper is the gentleman of the team... a real diplomat.

The lads call him Border, a nickname he had during his days at Derby County. I believe it was the name of a horse.

While at Birmingham, our KENNY BURNS, earned a reputation for being a hard-man.

Kenny is still a tremendous fighter, of course, with bags of aggression, but he's lost that "wild-man" image.

Brian Clough and Kenny's wife Louise have tamed him. He still hates to lose and will always give you 100 per cent, but he now keeps out of trouble.

Finally, I'd like to give a mention to defender COLIN BARRETT, the good-looking one of the Forest bunch.

Colin's a good player who has been unlucky with injuries in the past.

He scored our second goal in last season's first-leg European Cup-tie against Liverpool. So he's earned his bread.

Well, that's about it. There are other players I'd like to have spoken about but space has beaten me I'm afraid.

Just enough left to mention this Saturday's (September 22nd) match at Bristol City.

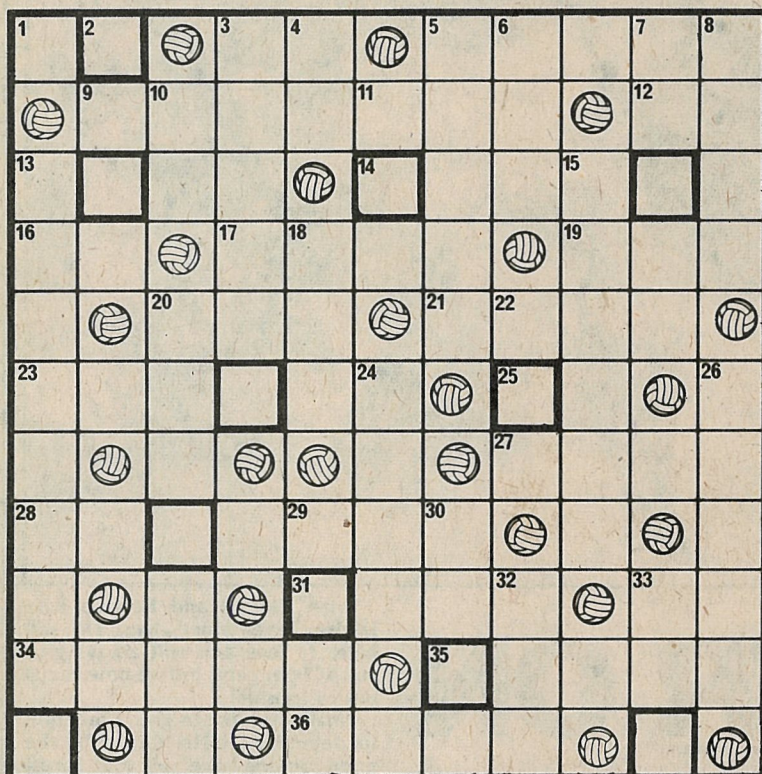
Ashton Gate is something of a happy hunting ground for Forest in recent years. We won 3-1 there in 1977-78 and by the same score last term.

I don't see any reason why we shouldn't complete a hat-trick on Saturday.

So this is Spider signing off for another fortnight. See you...

Viv Anderson

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of an Arsenal defender. Answers on page 46.



- (1) Paul Br--h of West Ham
- (3) — Ahead Eagles; Dutch League club.
- (5) Body part which needs to be kept slim.
- (9) Many goals result from them.
- (12) The P--ters (Stoke City). The missing letters reversed.
- (13) Dennis —, Leicester City defender.
- (14) Arnold —, Ipswich Town midfielder.
- (16) Luton Town, The H--ters.
- (17) Turned round and round.
- (19) Le--ash-n (1963 European Footballer of the Year). Plant from the omissions.
- (20) Bri--ol Cit-, Division One club.
- (21) Ha--a-nue (Southport). Donate from the missing letters.
- (23) A French League club.
- (25) Rene Hous--an (Argentine star). The omissions reversed.
- (27) -o-tman R-a-; Ipswich Town's ground.
- (28) Scottish club who won everything they played for in 1929/30, 1933/34 and 1977/78.
- (31) ---tton P-rk (Portsmouth). A distant word from the missing letters.
- (33) S--rtak Trnava; European club.
- (34) A surprise result, for instance.
- Road, ground of Colchester
- (36) One of four allowed to the goalkeeper whilst holding the ball.

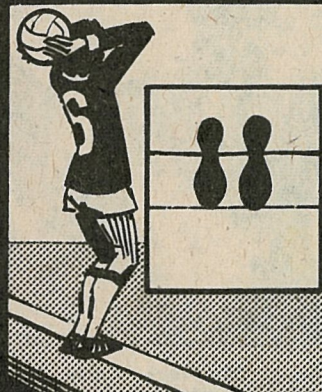
- (2) Frank Gray (Nottingham Forest) is one.
- (3) — Road, Crewe Alexandra.
- (4) Millwall, The Li--s.
- (5) Twisted.
- (6) -lder--ot from the Recreation Ground.
- (7) — Coppell of Manchester United.
- (8) — Sealey of Crystal Palace.
- (10) Queen -- the South, Scottish club.
- (11) G-rd --ller; famous European player.
- (13) Expressing ecstatic delight.
- (15) Gianni —, European Footballer of the Year, 1969.
- (18) Jesse —, former famous name with Luton Town.
- (20) Graeme —, Liverpool midfield player.
- (22) Lincoln City are nicknamed The ---s.
- (24) H-dde---ield Town. "Foam" from the missing letters.
- (26) — Street, ground of Hereford United.
- (29) Consumes food from one's seats!
- (30) Take four letters from Newcastle for an auction.
- (32) Smart slight blow.
- (33) -r--ton Park, Tranmere Rovers.



YOU ARE THE REF

1

Is a player allowed to take a throw-in standing with both feet on the touch-line?



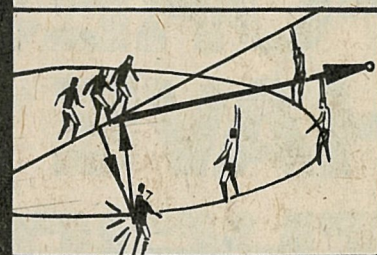
The players complain that the match ball is not completely round. Should you take notice of this?



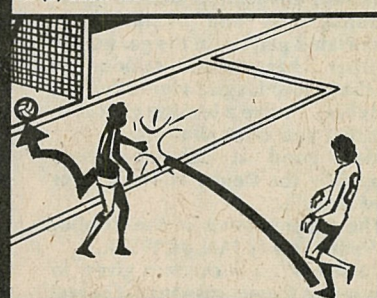
Can a goalkeeper take a throw-in?



At a kick-off the ball hits your legs and returns to the kicker who kicks it upfield. Should you: (a) award a free-kick against the kicker, (b) drop the ball or (c) do nothing?



5 Taking an indirect free-kick, inside his own penalty-area, a defender passes the ball back to the goalkeeper who touches it before it goes into goal. Should you: (a) award a goal or (b) allow the defender to retake the kick?



1. Yes. 2. Yes. I remember refereeing Manchester United and Leeds came into my dressing room and complained about the ball in front of Tommy Docherty, boss of United. After a few minutes I agreed to check the weight and circumference to see it was round. I can only think at that time there was no love lost between these two managers. This happened before the match! 3. Yes. 4. Award the kick (a). 5. Allow the defender to retake the kick (b).

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

If Everton's manager Gordon Lee was sacked tomorrow by the club's board of directors, the dismissal would sadden but not surprise him.

Equally, if the Goodison Park boss managed to steer the club on a trophy winning spree in England and Europe over the next five years and was hailed subsequently as the Messiah of Merseyside, that would not surprise him either.

No manager in the country has been perched on a finer knife-edge than Gordon Lee since he moved into the manager's chair at Everton almost three years ago.

Measured in terms of trophy winning, Everton's last ten years have been barren, but if ever a club

the anchorage of sterling silver won before many SHOOT readers were born.

The glory days when Everton, NOT Liverpool, were the leading Merseyside club are a dusty passage of history. They have won seven League Championships, but not since 1970, and have been runners-up for the title six times. They have won the League crown only twice since the last War.

F.A. Cup success has been even more elusive since the War. They won the trophy twice before 1939 but only once, against Sheffield Wednesday in 1966, has an Everton captain had his hands on the trophy.

They have reached one Football



Everton manager Gordon Lee.

a few weeks in the summer I spent most of the vacation thinking about the club and its future.

"I have always admired men like Joe Mercer but at the end of the day there is only one person that really matters — ME. I sink or swim by my actions.

"It's all about getting players to perform for you on the field. Two managers, Bob Paisley and Brian Clough, are masters of the art. That is my objective.

"Clough has taken chances and had success. I also take a chance. I made no friends when I sold Malcolm Macdonald to Arsenal for more than £300,000. I was Newcastle manager then, and Malcolm the idol. But I felt the decision was right, and our results after his departure proved my judgment was well based.

"Players have become a little precious in recent years. Fancy

EVERTON'S HIT OR BUST SEASON

deserved to be tagged with the old cliché "so near and yet so far" it is them.

They were unbeaten in the First Division last season until December but blew-up in the big freeze of early 1979 and finished fourth in the table.

They have reached Cup Semi-Finals but have always been the bridesmaid, never the bride.

If it wasn't for the devotion of Everton's cleaners, the trophy cabinet at the club would be choked with cobwebs, for nothing of note has passed through the glass showcase doors to disturb

League Cup Final and have made eight seasonal excursions into Europe — but have brought home no trophies.

No wonder Gordon Lee wants the club to break its ten year 'duck' in one of the domestic competitions this season or in the U.E.F.A. Cup where they meet Feyenoord in two legs on September 19 away, and at Goodison on October 3.

Many managers would bluff to camouflage Everton's problems. Not Gordon Lee. He is, if nothing, a realist.

"Of course we're unsettled," he says in that matter of fact way he has of discussing situations.

"Who wouldn't be if three star players walked into the manager's office and demanded transfers at the start of a new season?" referring to transfer requests from England internationals Bob Latchford, David Thomas and full-back Mike Pejic.

"They said they wanted to go for all sorts of reasons. They were unhappy — and they didn't want to play for the club. I had no option

but to put them on the list.

"Then came all the bad publicity. I didn't escape it, nor did the club. Why do people always want to publicise the bad things in life? When I was a young lad, I was only interested in the good things about football.

"I loved reading about the great goalscorers, the great creative players, the great defenders, marvellous goalkeepers, clever managers and important administrators. The bad stuff never interested me, nor does it true football fans today.

"If you treat players honestly, it hurts when they come into you and want to leave. I have always done what I think is the best for Everton, and if I got the sack tomorrow there is nothing I would be ashamed of in my time here.

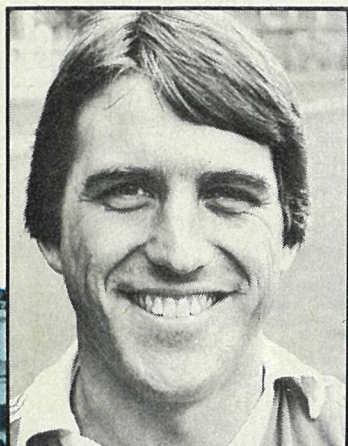
"In the last two seasons Everton have lost only 16 First Division games. Not a bad record is it?

"I haven't learned to play squash or golf. My time at Goodison has been spent working to improve the club — and when I went off for

having to pay win bonuses. Wouldn't you think that pulling on an England shirt or the royal blue shirt of Everton was enough to make a man play out of his skin for victory? Not in today's climate, I'm afraid.

"Bob Latchford signed a three-year contract to play for Everton 12 months ago. Now he tells me he wants to go abroad. Is that fair on Everton?

"Dave Thomas wants to leave because of frustration at our lack of success. Wouldn't a better



attitude be for him to roll up his sleeves and help win us something?"

At least five Everton players have expressed discontent since the end of last season — Trevor Ross, Colin Todd and the transfer listed rebels.

Mike Pejic has recently been sold to Aston Villa for around £250,000, of course.

Three points from their first four League games did nothing to lift the gloom but Gordon Lee refuses to be disconsolate.

Everton maintained their reputation for big-spending when they signed Asa Hartford for £400,000 after the Scottish international midfielder star's brief sojourn to Nottingham.

But if the former Manchester City player can't do it for Forest,

Continued on page 26

Striker Brian Kidd (above) relishes the challenge, but how long will Bob Latchford (above left) and Colin Todd (above right) wear an Everton shirt?



BACK ROW (left-to-right): Imre Varadi, George Telfer, Drew Brand, Mike Lyons, George Wood, Mark Higgins, Brian Kidd.
CENTRE ROW: Eric Harrison (trainer), Dave Thomas, Colin Todd, Geoff Nulty, David Barton, Peter Eastoe, Neil Robinson, Mike Pejic, Colin Harvey (second team trainer), Jim McGregor (physio).
FRONT ROW: Eamon O'Keefe, John Bailey, Billy Wright, Gordon Lee (manager), Bob Latchford, Andy King, Trevor Ross.

EVER



RTON



SHOOT!

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Continued

what chance of succeeding at Everton?

"Because Asa's a class player," insists Lee. "He's in the same mould as Colin Harvey, Alan Ball and Howard Kendall. He wants to play, he wants to win."

"His trouble at Forest could have been that he was expected to play between two ball-playing experts, Frankie Gray and John Robertson."

"If we can improve him, it will be to strengthen his awareness of things happening off the ball."

Hartford's enthusiasm could provide the sparks that lift Everton out of the doldrums, especially when he forges an understanding with Garry Stanley, £300,000 buy from Chelsea.

Poor Stanley wondered what had happened when he arrived in Liverpool, jumped into a taxi and asked for Everton Football Club. "What do you want to go there for son?" snapped the driver.

"Just get me there," said Stanley, only to discover on the journey that the driver was an Anfield regular.

Lee anticipates a major contribution from the 25-year-old midfielder. "As a youngster I thought he had ability and great potential. He has been at Chelsea all his career, apart from going to the States for a short time, and the time was right for a change."

"His best is yet to come because some players are not seen at their best until they are introduced into



Andy King's one of the most improved players in England.

a successful set-up."

John Bailey, a classy full-back, has been recruited from Blackburn Rovers by a manager knowing that the demand by the public for the team to win something has never been greater.

Everton are hoping that Pat Heard, another full-back, maintains his progress. The 19-year-old Yorkshireman made nine appearances last season.

Brian Kidd will relish the challenge of leading the forward line at his fourth First Division club and Andy King, one of the most improved players in the country has signed a new four-year contract.

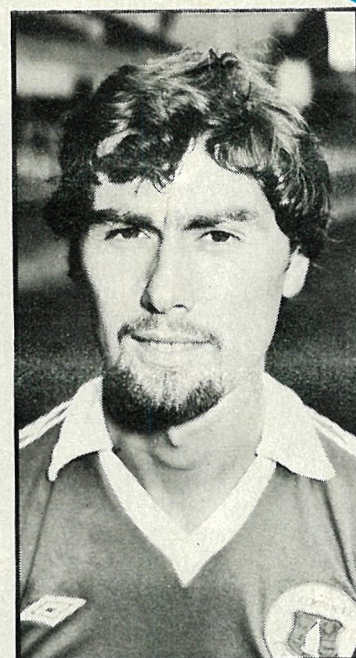
This summer Andy was reported to have demanded a move back to his native South. Fortunately that was only a newspaper rumour which he quickly squashed by agreeing to the new deal.

All clubs need safe goalkeepers if they are to be successful and in George Wood Everton have one of the best. He has made more than 100 appearances and worked "double shifts" in pre-season training to defy the critics who say he is not good enough to play for Scotland after his jittery performance against England last season.

Ross Jack, a young Scotsman who made his debut last season, typifies the enthusiasm now sweeping through the club. He could have left the club to try his luck in the lower Divisions but preferred to stay and await his chance.

So the spirit is there, and now that the remaining rebels have been told they can go, perhaps Everton's flesh will be willing.

They deserve some luck — no one more than Gordon Lee, recognised by informed observers as one of the best managers in the game.



Dave Thomas — "Why doesn't he roll up his sleeves and get on with the job?"

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DOUG SOMNER- St Mirren's 'Mr Dynamite'

HORSE whipping may be eminently more acceptable to an unsuspecting 'victim' than facing the robust power of St. Mirren's Mr. Dynamite Doug Somner...

Somner is not a superstar blessed with the delicate skills of a George Best. When he charges towards goal he doesn't do so with the poise and flamboyance of a Johan Cruyff. Neither does he possess the perception of a Kenny Dalglish.

All this, of course, doesn't bother Doug Somner one bit. "I play to my strengths," he says quietly. "I haven't got time to waste on frills."

"My job is scoring goals and you don't get an awful lot of time or space in penalty-areas these days. No one is going to step aside and

let me have a clear look at goal.

"Playing with your back to goal for lengthy spells means you get whacked a fair number of times. Every central target man knows this and it certainly doesn't bother me."

"I'll take the rough with the smooth. If someone goes in hard on me I don't let it interfere with my concentration."

"I'm paid to score goals... I refuse to be sidetracked. The best way to hit the hard men is to stick that ball in the back of the net as often as possible. I never lose sight of that, believe me."

Opponents respect Somner, who is very definitely a player's player as well as being a manager's dream off the field.

"I played alongside him for years with Partick Thistle," says former Under-23 star Bobby Houston, who almost joined Leeds United last season in a £70,000 move.

"He is one of the bravest forwards I have ever come across. I knew whenever I sent over an awkward cross he wouldn't think twice about going for it."

"Near post, far post, in the middle... you name it and Doug went for it in his search for goals."

"If he had played for one of the Old Firm clubs we would have heard more of him."

Sad News

"He has been a consistent scorer in Scotland over the past four or five years and several changes of club haven't interrupted that flow."

"Personally, I was sad to see him leave us for St. Mirren last season for £100,000. He telephoned me at home to give me the news because we were friends on and off the pitch. Now we are just friends off the pitch!"

"I wished him all the best of luck and I hope his goal supply doesn't dry up, just so long as he doesn't find much success against me or my club!"

Houston talks with great admiration about his former colleague and it is not just an old pal's act.

"No, honestly, I have always rated Doug," says Houston. "He played for Falkirk and Ayr United before joining Thistle, remember, and I know no defender ever looked forward to facing him."

Somner, who has chosen to remain a part-timer although he got the option to go full-time with St. Mirren, says: "I didn't see the point in changing at this stage in my career."

"I work in an office in Motherwell, but I have flexible hours so it really doesn't interfere with my football, I'm glad to say. My employers are very reasonable."

So, too, is a fee of only £100,000 for a player of his calibre in this day and age...



Aberdeen's STEVE ARCHIBALD- 'the world's worst loser'

TENNIS ace Jimmy Connors has got a title I think I deserve and it has got nothing at all to do with Wimbledon.

He's been called 'The world's worst loser', but I don't think he is. I AM!

I'm not ashamed of it, either, I hasten to add. I'm not interested in finishing second and when I do lose at anything — from football to tiddlywinks — I just can't take it.

I want to be known as a winner. Runners-up medals mean nothing to me. Who wants to be second? Not me... I want to be first; I want to be up there on the rostrum with the winners.

When we lost 2-1 to Rangers in the League Cup Final at Hampden last season I couldn't even be bothered to collect my runners-up medal. I just wanted to sit in the dressing room on my own. I'm afraid I'm bad company when I've been on the losing side.

People have told me to calm down and I am trying to do that because I don't want to get in to trouble with referees, but sometimes I am so caught up in the action and involved so much with play that I might say things without thinking.

Suddenly you pick up a booking. In the following game it might happen again — nothing malicious, you understand — and then you are facing a suspension and I realise you have little chance of being regarded as a winner if you spend most of your afternoons sitting watching the game from the stand.

I like to get involved and I know I will never lose that urge. Why am I like this? It's been the same all the way through school, I can assure you.

Even in those days I couldn't stand the thought of defeat. My father tells me I wouldn't even talk to him if my school team lost!

I remember when I was with Clyde someone told me there was a scout watching me and I wanted to impress him. I had been booked in the previous game and I wanted to show the scout that I certainly

was not a dirty player. Call me competitive if you like, but never dirty.

Anyway, I went out and played in the first-half and did nothing right. I was too busy watching out for trouble. In the second-half I came out and decided to play my usual game. Things went better in that half.

My father, who has always given me great encouragement, was at that game. He picked me up after the match and told me I had played like a "big lassie" in the first-half. I had to agree with him!

Since I arrived at Aberdeen two years ago my game has progressed, first under manager Billy McNeill, who brought me from Clyde, and now under Alex Ferguson. I have been lucky to have been taught so much by two thorough professionals.

Optimist

Aberdeen can win the League this season, I'm convinced of that. And I'm not just saying that because I am an optimist or that I will not even contemplate being a loser.

When we put our game together we are the best team in Scotland and one of the best in Europe. Look at our match against Dundee United at Tannadice this season.

We really clicked that day and won 3-1. I thought we were marvellous. I was really bubbling after that match. It was shown on television, too, and suddenly a lot of people were talking about The Dons.

There wasn't much publicity coming our way until then, but the critics remembered us again with a hurry!

Now that I've got everything settled I just want to keep on rattling in those goals and just hope the winners' medals keep flowing in. I've got a trophy cabinet just waiting for them.

I may be a bad loser, but I know I can be a great winner. Wish me luck...

RESULTS...SCORERS...GATES... RESULTS...

Wednesday, August 22

Second Division

Cardiff (0) 1 (Stevens)	11,656
QPR (0) 0	
Fulham (0) 0	
Orient (0) 0	9,174
Sunderland (1) 2 (Robson, Brown)	
Birmingham (0) 0	25,877

Third Division

Chester (1) 3 (Edwards 2, Raynor (pen))	3,779
Grimsby (1) 1 (Moore K)	
Exeter (0) 0	
Wimbledon (0) 2 (Parsons, Leslie)	4,051

Fourth Division

Crewe (0) 0	
Lincoln (1) 2 (Harford, Cunningham)	2,238
Northampton (0) 1 (Denyer)	
Bradford (1) 2 (Hutchins, Podd)	2,555
Peterborough (0) 1 (Lambert)	
Tranmere (0) 2 (Lumby, Edwards)	4,878
Wigan (1) 1 (Moore)	
Huddersfield (2) 2 (Holmes, Fletcher)	6,926

Scottish League Cup

(First Round, second-leg)

Arbroath (2) 2 (Wilson, Myles)	
Aberdeen (1) 1 (Harper)	2,174
(Aberdeen win 5-2 on agg.)	
St. Johnstone (1) 3 (Lawson, Goldthorp, Brogan)	
Dumbarton (1) 2 (Whiteford, Blair)	2,634
(St. Johnstone win 4-3 on agg.)	
Berwick (1) 2 (Morton, Moyes)	
Forfar (0) 2 (Henry, Rae)	a.e.t. 1,200
(Forfar win 5-4 on agg.)	
Alloa (0) 1 (Cochrane)	
Kilmarnock (0) 1 (Doherty)	a.e.t. 1,700
(Kilmarnock win 3-2 on agg.)	
Dunfermline (0) 2 (McAloon (pen), Robertson)	
Stranraer (0) 4 (Hyslop, Thomson (o.g.), Inglis, Robertson)	a.e.t. 2,000
(Stranraer win 4-2 on agg.)	

Friday, August 24

Fourth Division

Crewe (0) 2 (Nelson, Hunter)	
Torquay (2) 2 (Sermanni, Larmour)	2,165
Rochdale (0) 1 (Jones)	
Hartlepool (0) 0	2,600

Scottish Second

Meadowbank (0) 2 (Jobson 2)	
East Fife (0) 0	1,000

Saturday, August 25

First Division

Arsenal (0) 0	
Man. Utd. (0) 0	44,371
Aston Villa (0) 0	
Bristol C. (1) 2 (Mabbutt, Ritchie (pen))	25,526
Bolton (2) 2 (McNab, Whatmore)	
Southampton (0) 1 (George)	17,417
Derby (0) 0	
Everton (1) 1 (King)	17,817
Liverpool (1) 3 (Johnson 2, Owen (o.g.))	
West Brom (0) 1 (Barnes)	48,021

Man. City (2) 3 (Power, Channon, Robinson (pen))	
Brighton (1) 2 (Maybank, Ward)	34,557

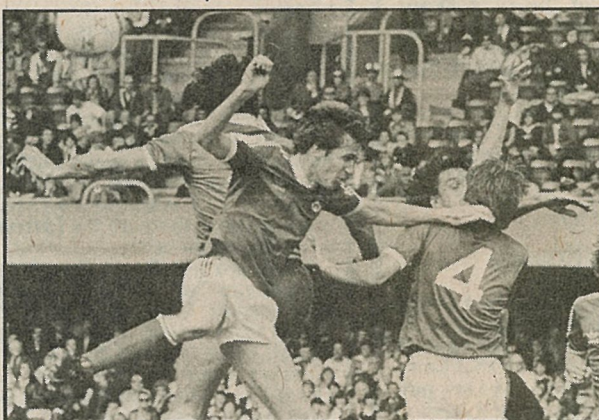
Middlesbro (0) 1 (Cummins)	
C. Palace (1) 1 (Swindlehurst)	24,521
Norwich (2) 2 (Bond 2 (1 pen))	
Leeds (1) 1 (Hart)	18,444

Nottm For (2) 4 (Woodcock, McGovern 2, Robertson (pen))	
Coventry (0) 1 (English)	23,025

Stoke (2) 3 (Crooks 2 (1 pen), O'Callaghan)	
Tottenham (0) 1 (Perryman)	22,832
Wolves (1) 3 (Carr, Daniel, Eves)	
Ipswich (0) 0	22,025

Second Division

Bristol R. (2) 2 (Barrowclough (pen), Dennehy)	
Shrewsbury (0) 1 (Tong (pen))	7,513
Burnley (0) 0	
Notts Co (1) 1 (Mair)	6,977
Cambridge (1) 2 (Finney 2)	
Watford (1) 2 (Blissett, Jenkins)	7,606
Cardiff (1) 1 (Stevens)	
Birmingham (2) 2 (Evans 2)	11,314
Charlton (0) 1 (Walker)	
Newcastle (1) 1 (Cassidy)	6,849
Chelsea (1) 3 (Harris, Britton, Bumstead)	
Wrexham (1) 1 (Buxton)	18,732



Chelsea beat Wrexham (light shorts) 3-1.

Grimsby (2) 4 (Waters (pen), Cumming 2, Moore, K.)	
Blackpool (2) 3 (Smith, Kellow, Wilson)	7,306

Hull (1) 2 (Roberts, Phillips)	
Oxford (2) 2 (Cooke, Berry)	4,029

Rotherham (2) 3 (Finney, Fern, Gwyther)	
Colchester (0) 0	3,782

Sheff. Wed. (0) 0	
Blackburn (1) 3 (Craig, Fazackerley, McKenzie)	14,228

Swindon (1) 4 (Mayes 2, Lewis, Rowland)	
Brentford (0) 0	6,977

Wimbledon (0) 0	
Southend (0) 1 (Morris)	4,173

Fourth Division

Aldershot (1) 3 (Crosby, Scott, French)	
Port Vale (1) 1 (Todd)	2,538
Bournemouth (1) 3 (Massey, Chambers (pen), Townsend)	
Newport (1) 2 (Oakes, Goddard)	5,428
Bradford (0) 2 (Wood, McNiven)	
Tranmere (0) 0	4,627
Hereford (1) 1 (McGrellis)	
Darlington (0) 0	4,031
Huddersfield (1) 3 (Holmes (pen), Cowling, Robins)	
Doncaster (0) 0	5,232

Scottish First

Arbroath (1) 2 (Gavine, Kydd)	
St. Johnstone (1) 2 (Brogan 2)	1,870
Ayr (0) 0	
Clyde (0) 0	2,497
Berwick (1) 1 (Tait)	
Hearts (1) 3 (O'Connor 3)	4,478
Clydebank (1) 2 (Sweeney, Miller)	
Dumbarton (0) 1 (Whiteford)	2,500
Hamilton (1) 4 (Graham, Fairlie, Irwin (o.g.), Howie)	
Airdrie (3) 3 (Lapsley (pen), McGuire, Clark)	2,500
Raith (0) 0	
Dunfermline (0) 0	1,700
Stirling (1) 2 (Irvine, Kennedy, J.)	
Motherwell (0) 0	2,100

Scottish Second

Alloa (0) 0	
Montrose (1) 1 (Beedie)	750
Cowdenbeath (2) 2 (Steele 2)	
East Stirling (1) 2 (Robertson, Gourlay)	300
Falkirk (0) 3 (Hay (pen), McRoberts, Leation)	
Stranraer (0) 0	2,500
Forfar (4) 6 (Clark 4, Rae, Mitchell)	
Albion (1) 2 (Franchetti 2)	1,000
Queen of South (1) 2 (Shields, Alexander)	
Stenhousem (1) 1 (Jack)	750
Queen's Park (1) 1 (Wood)	
Brechin (2) 3 (Kyles 3)	670

Monday, August 27

Scottish League Cup

(First Round, second-leg)

Albion (3) 4 (Bennett (o.g.), Coyle, Leishman, Franchetti)	
East Stirling (1) 1 (Docherty (o.g.))	1,500
(Albion win 5-2 on agg.)	

Tuesday, August 28

Football League Cup

(Second Round, first-leg)

Birmingham (1) 2 (Ainscow, Dillon)	
Preston (0) 1 (Potts)	13,660
Bolton (0) 1 (Gowling)	
Southend (0) 2 (Morris 2)	7,861
Brighton (1) 2 (Horton, Ward)	
Cambridge (0) 0	15,370
Bristol City (1) 1 (Ritchie (pen))	
Rotherham (0) 0	6,981
Burnley (1) 1 (Dobson)	
Wolves (0) 1 (Palmer)	6,103
Chesterfield (1) 3 (Birch (pen), Moss 2)	
Shrewsbury (0) 0	5,119
Colchester (0) 0	
Aston Villa (1) 2 (Shaw 2)	6,221
Doncaster (2) 3 (Lister, Ripley, Nimmo)	
Exeter (1) 1 (Pullar)	4,636
Everton (1) 2 (Kidd 2)	
Cardiff (0) 0	18,061
Gillingham (1) 1 (Overton)	
Norwich (1) 1 (Taylor)	10,594
Grimsby (1) 1 (Cumming)	
Huddersfield (0) 0	7,803
Northampton (0) 3 (Reilly 2 (1 pen), Isard)	
Oldham (0) 0	3,053

SCORERS...GATES... RESULTS...SCORERS...

Notts Co (0) 0	
Torquay (0) 0	5,865
Plymouth (2) 2 (Trusson 2)	
Chelsea (2) 2 (Fillery 2)	10,822
Southampton (3) 5 (George, Boyer 2, Baker 2)	
Wrexham (0) 0	13,920
Swindon (1) 1 (Mayes)	
Chester (0) 0	6,965
Sheff. Wed (0) 1 (King)	
Man. City (1) 1 (Viljoen)	15,000
West Ham (2) 3 (Brooking, Pearson, Cross)	
Barnsley (0) 1 (Glavin)	12,320
Q.P.R. (1) 2 (McCreery, Neal)	
Bradford (0) 1 (Staniforth)	8,560

Scottish League Cup

(Second Round, first-leg)

Stenhousemuir (0) 1 (Jack)	
St. Mirren (2) 4 (Somner 2, Stark, Bone)	1,158

Wednesday, August 29

Football League Cup

(Second Round, first-leg)

Blackburn (1) 1 (Parkes)	
Nottm For (1) 1 (Lloyd)	20,458
Derby (0) 0	
Middlesbrough (0) 1 (Armstrong (pen))	15,205
Ipswich (0) 0	
Coventry (1) 1 (English)	13,217
Leeds (0) 1 (Stevenson (pen))	
Arsenal (0) 1 (Stapleton)	23,421
Orient (0) 2 (Chiedozi, Hughton)	
Wimbledon (1) 2, (Parsons, Leslie)	4,964
Peterborough (0) 0	
Blackpool (0) 0	4,326
Reading (1) 4 (Heale, Earles 2, Alexander)	
Mansfield (1) 3 (Taylor, Allen, Bird)	5,779
Stockport (1) 1 (Henson)	
C. Palace (1) 1 (Flanagan)	6,193
Stoke (0) 1 (Smith)	
Swansea (0) 1 (Mahoney)	18,004
Sunderland (1) 2 (Robson (pen), Rostron)	
Newcastle (0) 2 (Davies, Cartwright)	27,658
Tottenham (2) 2 (Pratt, Hoddle)	
Man. Utd (0) 1 (Thomas)	29,163
Tranmere (0) 0	
Liverpool (0) 0	16,759
West Brom (1) 1 (Robson)	
Fulham (0) 1 (Davies)	13,611

Scottish League Cup

(Second Round, first-leg)

Airdrie (0) 2 (Lapsley (pen), Clark)	
Dundee United (1) 1 (Addison)	4,500
Clyde (1) 1 (Brogan)	
Rangers (2) 2 (Dawson, Robertson)	6,000
Clydebank (0) 0	
Hamilton (0) 0	1,900
Cowdenbeath (0) 1 (Liddle)	
Dundee (3) 4 (Sinclair 2, Shirra, Redford (pen))	2,000
Falkirk (0) 1 (Hay (pen))	
Celtic (1) 2 (McCluskey, Provan)	9,000
Hibs (1) 2 (Rae, Higgins)	
Montrose (1) 1 (Johnston)	4,500

Kilmarnock (0) 2 (Clarke, Gibson)	
Forfar (0) 0	3,000
Meadowbank (0) 0	
Aberdeen (1) 5 (McGhee, Strachan, McMaster 2, Garner)	2,000
Motherwell (1) 1 (Clinging)	
Queen's Park (1) 4 (Melrose, Sinclair, Nicholson, Wood)	2,200
Partick (0) 2 (McAdam, Melrose)	
Albion (0) 2 (Campbell 2)	2,500
Queen of South (0) 0	
Morton (1) 1 (Ritchie)	2,000
Raith (1) 1 (McFarlane)	
East Fife (0) 0	700
Stirling (0) 3 (Nichol, Gray, O'Connor)	
Brechin (1) 1 (Robb)	800
St. Johnstone (0) 3 (Goldthorpe 2, Brogan)	
Stranraer (0) 1 (Hay)	1,700

Friday, August 31

Third Division

Colchester (1) 2 (Gough, Hodge)	
Swindon (2) 3 (Mayet, Rowland 2)	2,794

Fourth Division

Darlington (1) 3 (Seal, Walsh, Taylor (o.g.))	
Rochdale (1) 1 (Weir (pen))	
Tranmere (0) 0	
Stockport (0) 1 (Thorpe)	2,771

Saturday, September 1

First Division

Brighton (2) 3 (Ward, Clark, Horton)	
Bolton (0) 1 (Walsh)	20,171
Bristol C (1) 2 (Gow, Royle)	
Wolves (0) 0	18,835
Coventry (0) 2 (McDonald, Ferguson)	
Norwich (0) 0	18,181
C. Palace (1) 4 (Flanagan 2, Nicholas, Swindlehurst)	
Derby (0) 0	25,127
Everton (0) 1 (Bailey)	
Aston Villa (1) 1 (Morley)	29,271
Ipswich (2) 3 (Brazil, Mariner, Wark)	
Stoke (1) 1 (Butcher (o.g.))	17,539
Leeds (1) 1 (Hart)	
Arsenal (0) 1 (Nelson)	23,245
Man. Utd. (1) 2 (Macari 2)	
Middlesbro (0) 1 (Johnston)	51,015

West Brom (1) 1 (Owen)	
Nottm For. (3) 5 (Lloyd, Birtles 3, Gray)	26,026

Second Division

Birmingham (1) 1 (Barrowclough (pen))	
Bristol R (1) 1 (Dillon)	15,320
Fulham (1) 1 (Marinello)	
Preston (0) 0	7,922
Leicester (0) 1 (May)	
Luton (2) 3 (Moss 2 (1 pen), Hill)	16,241
Newcastle (0) 2 (Withe 2)	
Chelsea (1) 1 (Fillery)	25,230
Notts Co (0) 1 (Masson)	
Q.P.R. (0) 0	8,745
Oldham (0) 3 (Stainrod, Steele 2)	
Sunderland (0) 0	7,830
Orient (1) 1 (Jennings)	
Charlton (1) 1 (Hales)	6,052
Shrewsbury (1) 1 (Turner)	
Cambridge (0) 2 (Buckley, Spriggs)	5,670
Swansea (1) 2 (Toshack, Craig (pen))	
Burnley (1) 1 (Noble)	22,000
Watford (1) 2 (Blissett 2)	
West Ham (0) 0	23,329
Wrexham (0) 0	
Cardiff (1) 1 (Stevens)	9,830

Third Division

Blackburn (0) 0	
Grimsby (0) 0	8,877
Blackpool (1) 3 (Wilson, Kerr, Weston)	
Wimbledon (0) 0	4,556
Brentford (1) 3 (Carlton, Fraser, Holmes B.)	
Chesterfield (1) 1 (Sammons)	5,760
Bury (1) 2 (Beamish, McIlwraith)	
Chester (0) 0	3,447
Mansfield (1) 1 (Austin)	
Hull (1) 1 (Haigh)	4,320
Millwall (0) 1 (O'Callaghan)	
Carlisle (0) 0	5,153
Oxford (0) 1 (Berry)	
Barnsley (0) 0	4,849
Plymouth (0) 1 (Hodges)	
Sheff. Wed. (1) 3 (McCulloch, Porterfield, Curran)	6,208
Reading (0) 1 (Bowman)	
Gillingham (1) 3 (Price 2, Westwood)	6,156

Fourth Division

Doncaster (0) 0	
Bradford (1) 3 (Dolan 2 (1 pen), Staniforth)	5,589
Halifax (3) 3 (Burke, Johnson 2 (1 pen), Crewe (0) 1 (Hunter)	1,418
Hartlepool (0) 1 (Houchen)	
Aldershot (0) 0	3,079
Lincoln (0) 2 (Harford 2)	
Huddersfield (0) 0	4,272
Newport (2) 2 (Oakes, Goddard)	
York (0) 0	3,818
Port Vale (0) 0	
Peterborough (1) 1 (Kellock)	2,794
Scunthorpe (0) 2 (Green, Earl)	
Bournemouth (1) 1 (Bryant)	1,471
Torquay (1) 2 (Cooper, Lawrence)	
Northampton (0) 2 (Denyer, Ward)	2,713
Walsall (2) 3 (Buckley 2 (1 pen), Serella)	
Hereford (2) 2 (Feeley, Emery)	4,527
Wigan (1) 1 (Moore)	
Portsmouth (0) 2 (Brisley, Garwood)	8,198

Scottish League Cup

(Second Round, first-leg)

Ayr (1) 2 (McLaughlin, Frye)	
Hearts (0) 2 (Gibson (pen), Robertson)	3,558

(Second Round, second-leg)

Aberdeen (0) 2 (McMaster, Strachan (pen))	
Meadowbank (0) 2 (Jobson 2)	4,200
(Aberdeen win 7-2 on agg.)	
Albion (0) 0	
Partick (1) 1 (Gibson)	3,500
(Partick win 3-2 on agg.)	
Brechin (0) 0	
Stirling (1) 1 (Kennedy)	400
(Stirling win 4-1 on agg.)	
Celtic (0) 4 (Lennox, Conroy 2, Doyle)	
Falkirk (1) 1 (Leetion)	17,000
(Celtic win 6-2 on agg.)	
Dundee (3) 3 (Sinclair, Shirra 2)	
Cowdenbeath (0) 1 (Kane)	4,553
(Dundee win 7-2 on agg.)	
Dundee Utd (2) 2 (Payne, Sturrock)	
Airdrie (0) 0	5,760
(Dundee Utd win 3-2 on agg.)	
East Fife (0) 0	
Raith (1) 2 (McFarlane, Miller)	2,355
(Raith win 3-0 on agg.)	
Forfar (0) 1 (Gallacher)	
Kilmarnock (1) 1 (Maxwell)	1,565
(Kilmarnock win 3-1 on agg.)	
Montrose (0) 1 (Murray)	
Hibernian (0) 1 (Higgins)	a.e.t. 1,900
(Hibernian win 3-2 on agg.)	
Morton (2) 4 (Tompson, Ritchie 2 (1 pen), Anderson)	
Queen of South (0) 0	3,500
(Morton win 5-0 on agg.)	
Queen's Park (0) 0	
Motherwell (0) 2 (Irvine, Clinging)	1,966
(Queen's Park win 4-3 on agg.)	
Rangers (3) 4 (O'Neill (o.g.), MacKay 2, Smith)	
Clyde (0) 0	16,000
(Rangers win 6-1 on agg.)	
St. Mirren (2) 4 (Torrance, Somner 3)	
Stenhousemuir (0) 2 (Brisbane, Jenkins (pen))	3,000
(St. Mirren win 8-3 on agg.)	



Tottenham's Colin Lee (light shirt) is thwarted by Manchester City but Spurs won 2-1.

Southampton (1) 3 (Hebberd, Boyer, George)	
Liverpool (1) 2 (Johnson, Irwin)	21,402
Tottenham (1) 2 (Hoddle, Jones)	
Man. City (0) 1 (MacKenzie)	30,902

Sheff. Utd. (2) 3 (Sabella, McPhail, Matthews (pen))	
Exeter (1) 1 (Roberts)	12,000
Southend (0) 0	
Rotherham (0) 2 (Gwyther 2)	4,765



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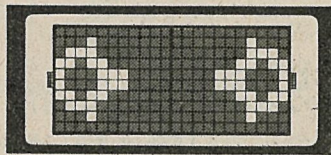
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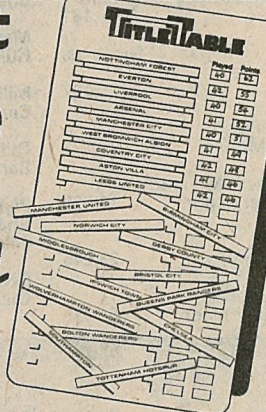
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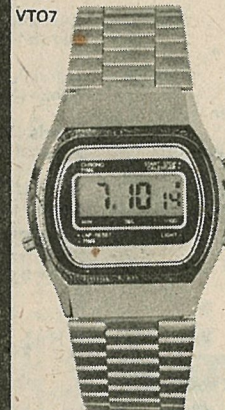
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THE AMAZING TRANSFER SAGA OF ITALY'S £3 MILLION STAR

THE summer follies of English football, with the much criticised big money transfers, still look a monument of wisdom if one takes a look at the Italian scene.

Maybe it is the Mediterranean sun, but what has just happened over there is not simply a matter of money. As a result of the story, that fine striker, Paolo Rossi, was almost ruined by his incredible experience.

One of the pillars of Italy's remarkable progress to the last four of the World Cup in 1978, Rossi came back to his country for a national hero's welcome. He was saluted as one of the finest forwards in the world, and certainly the best in Europe with the possible exception of Kevin Keegan. Less hot-minded than his fans, but nevertheless convinced of his qualities, international experts have since included him whenever asked to lay down the ideal team from today's stars.

Undoubtedly, in Paolo Rossi, Italy has found a talent of outstanding value. It is astonishing that during the summer he ran the serious risk of being wasted away.

The road to fame began for Rossi with the 1977-78 season, on the eve of the World Cup. His wonderful play with Lanerossi Vicenza won him the top place in the First Division's individual goal race. When signor Enzo Bearzot, Italy's manager, started to select his men for Argentina, Rossi was an obvious "must", and went on to prove

how well he deserved the call-up.

But professional players in Italy are bound to their clubs by very strict ties, and do not yet have a say as to their transfers. Rossi joined, as a young boy, the junior quarters of the most successful Italian club, Juventus of Turin, and on his coming of age, almost unnoticed, went to play on loan for Como, in the Third Division, where he soon showed his potential.

Juventus decided, therefore, to keep him within their reach, though there was no room for him in the First Division team. As he had also attracted the keen interest of Vicenza, Juventus "bought back" Rossi with this other club, Lanerossi of Vicenza, in a sort of joint venture, on a 50 per cent basis. Each paid about £60,000 and Rossi went to play for Lanerossi.

At the end of the 1977-78 season, and after his triumph in Argentina, Juventus naturally told Vicenza that they wanted him for themselves, buying the other half. But Vicenza would not agree on the suggested value, eager as they were to keep him or to make a big profit.

In the end a sort of auction was arranged, where the bigger offer would win. To the surprise of everybody in Italy, the Lanerossi Vicenza president, signor Farina, came out with a shocking 2.5 billion liras, implying in this way that Rossi's value was £3 million!

When last season ended, in spite of Rossi finishing second top

INTERNATIONAL
STAR SPORT

PAOLO
ROSSI

Perugia & Italy



scorer, Vicenza were relegated to the Second Division, and they put him on sale. Signor Farina started to bargain with the leading clubs, while big headlines in the papers suggested Rossi had been sold to Juventus today, to Inter Milan tomorrow and to Naples the day after.

Such a tug-of-war had only one effect — to bring Rossi to the verge of a nervous breakdown. In the end he went off for a holiday with his girl-friend to Greece, but reporters were soon on his tail with even more confusing news.

In fact, all the big clubs came to an unwritten agreement not to buy him for that crazy figure. The Juventus president, signor Agnelli, who is also the boss of Fiat, dismissed the matter for fears of its implications towards the persist-

ing crisis of the national economy. Only Naples seemed ready for a deal, but Rossi desperately told newsmen he would stop playing rather than go down to the Southern furnace.

Faced with the risk of having to keep him in the Second Division, so depriving the national team of his support, signor Farina in his quest for cash finally came to another amazing settlement. Rossi has been hired for the next two years to the vice-Champions, Perugia, but without any options for just... £600,000.

This is certainly not what everyone involved in the story wished for, but under the sunny skies of Italy the unpredictable is almost a rule.

Giancarlo Galavotti



Star striker Paolo Rossi (left) scores for Italy against Austria in the 1978 World Cup Finals.



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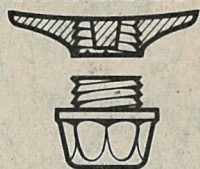
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'Players should help to run a club'

says **PAUL BREITNER**

SEPP Maier's recent serious road accident is likely to keep him out of action for several months. In the meantime, his controversial team-mate Paul Breitner (dark strip, left), has taken over the captaincy of Bayern Munich.

"Well, I'm not a permanent captain — I'm just the provisional head of the Bayern squad. As soon as Sepp is fit again I'll hand him back the captain's armband. Still, I think it's likely to be the New Year before he's in action again.

"A lot of people have said Sepp had been drinking beforehand, but I can assure you that after our friendly match in Ulm we drank only coffee and mineral water.

"I can only think he may have had a beer in the club's restaurant when we got back. Anyway, much more serious than that is the fact he was doing 160kph (100mph) at the time of the accident whereas the speed limit was 80 (50mph). This could create nasty problems, especially as the other people who were seriously injured in the accident are holding him responsible.

Mistake

"Sepp's absence is a blow for the team. And I suppose that it was a mistake by the directors not to have looked for a suitable replacement before now. Maier isn't immortal, and he's got to be replaced at some stage anyway. Now it's got to be done in a hurry.

"Our reserve 'keeper, Walter Junghans, is a bag of nerves and all the other Bundesliga teams started asking ridiculous sums for their goalkeepers!

"It was a marvellous gesture by my old club Real Madrid to loan us their reserve 'keeper. Fantastic.



They're the best club in the world.

"Günter Netzer learned a lot from them as well, and promptly set himself up as a pioneer in the field of modern 'management' in the Bundesliga. And in his first complete year with Hamburger SV he's helped them win the League.

"The club is lucky to have Netzer, plus a first-class coach in Branko Zebec, and a phenomenal player like Kevin Keegan, who's easily the best player in the Bundesliga. My team-mate Uli Hoeness would like to become the 'second Netzer' in this field, but he hasn't got the same raw material as Günter has in Hamburg.

"When I retire I'd like to do the same sort of thing — perhaps in Spain, where I was treated very well indeed. I'm not sure, because the United States isn't out of the question, particularly if I get an interesting offer from a California club.

"Going back to being the provisional captain at Bayern, yes, maybe it is slightly more important here than in other clubs. The

Press made a big thing about the players being responsible for the departure of the club president Herr Neudecker and our refusal to accept Max Merkel as coach.

"I think it's correct that the players should have a say in the way the club is run, and we all agreed there were a series of anomalies.

"Of course, the senior players, Sepp Maier and I, did all the talking, so people tend to think we were solely to blame for what happened. Lorient simply wasn't a good enough coach for the team, and we were going downhill fast.

"And then the president wanted to put in Merkel — who he knew we couldn't stand. It was a complete disaster, because we were already suffering from the absences of Müller and Hoeness.

"Still, when it all got sorted out, we started stringing some results together. We won 7-1 away to U.E.F.A. Cup-holders Borussia and beat the League Champions Cologne 5-1. I think we demonstrated that the players were right.

WORLD WIDE



compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

FINN TOP U.S. COACH

TIMO Liekoski, coach of the Houston Hurricane, has been named the North American Soccer League's 'Coach of the Year'. Liekoski was by far and away the favourite in balloting conducted of the League's coaches and general managers.

"I am certainly flattered by the award," Liekoski remarked. "I believe the credit for our success this year must be shared with my players and especially with my assistant, Jay Hoffman."

The 36-year-old native of Helsinki, Finland, moved to America as a teenager and, after serving in the United States Army attended Hartwick College. There he played soccer and was named an All-American in his junior year.

NEW IDEA IN BRAZIL

A **NOVEL** idea is being tried in São Paulo, Brazil, to boost gates. Because of the closing of all petrol stations at week-ends, not so many people are going to football matches because of the distance of the principal stadiums from the city centre.

It has therefore been decided, in principle, that closed circuit television would be installed in a central point in the city (the São Paulo F.A. headquarters) and the public would be able to see the matches "live" there.

If the idea is a success, coverage will probably be extended to other "central local" areas.

THE CUP OF FURY

THE Intercontinental Cup seems to be fading into obscurity. European Champions are no longer prepared to risk injury to their players by meeting the Champions of South America, and those who can remember Celtic's and Manchester United's (Nobby Stiles is sent-off below) exploits of the late 60's against Racing and Estudiantes will know why Liverpool refused to take part.

This year's South American Champions are Olimpia of Paraguay and they would very much like to play two games against Nottingham Forest. Brian Clough said he wouldn't mind one game, preferably at Wembley, but looking at Olimpia's road to glory this year, Clough would be well advised to steer clear of this competition.

The Copa Libertadores, as it is called in South America, has built up a history of everything that is bad in soccer, from violence to bribery.

In their first tie this year, Olimpia faced Bolivia's Wilsterman. Brazilian referee Wright (!) sent-off four Wilsterman players which, naturally, upset the home crowd. So much, there was a crowd invasion in which Wright was attacked. Observers say Wright is fortu-

nate to still be alive. He ran out of the stadium and thankfully there was a taxi passing, in which he escaped.

Even though the game was abandoned after 70 minutes, four Olimpia players were seriously injured.

Olimpia made it to the Final where they met reigning Champions Boca Juniors and there the "fun" started all over again. Boca coach Lorenzo "sportingly" threatened the Olimpia players with death (!) and one of the barriers which kept the crowd fenced in was "removed" as an intimidating gesture.

Olimpia, having won 2-0 in Paraguay,

drew 0-0 in Buenos Aires, and so became South American Champions.

I have never seen Olimpia play, so perhaps it's unfair to judge them, but surely there is far more to be lost than gained by Forest playing them. Some people feel the only way for Europe and South America to move closer together is to play more regularly.

Forest are an extremely well-disciplined side who are a credit to European football. I can't help fearing for them should they fly to Asuncion to play Olimpia, though.



News flashes

Anderlecht winger **Robbie Rensenbrink** will be sidelined for a while following a knee operation.

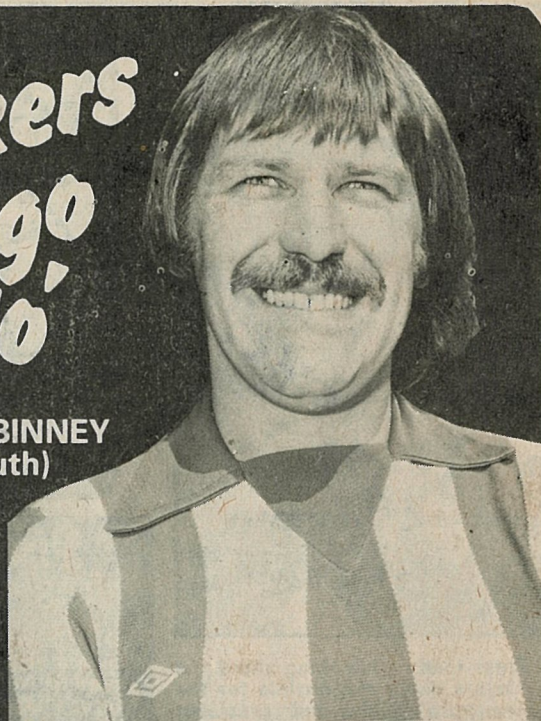
Yuri Ilitchev, a Russian, is the national team manager of Iceland. His contract is worth £15,000 a year, free home, free car and two flights home to Leningrad each month to see his family.

Leão, Brazil's top 'keeper for five years, says he is considering an offer to play abroad. His main complaint is poor pay when compared to Argentina, not to mention Europe.

Apparently **Leão** has an offer from the **Cosmos**.

'Strikers CAN go solo'

says FRED BINNEY
(Plymouth)



PLYMOUTH Argyle fans love nothing better than a Fred Binney goal. It gives them just the excuse they need to sing a few choruses of "There's only one Fred Binney".

And that refrain is nearer to the truth than they think because the veteran Argyle marksman surprisingly disagrees with the popular theory that strikers should hunt in pairs.

"A lot of fuss is made about strikers playing in pairs. I don't think it is right," said Fred. "Every manager in the country will disagree with me but I think strikers are really individualists."

And to back his words Binney has bagged 40 goals in 77 appearances for Plymouth — without a regular striking colleague.

"I've played alongside big men, little men, players who are very quick. I never find it any different. I have never had a regular partner. I just know what I have to do in the box," said Fred.

Few other strikers have had such a good record as Binney yet never broken into the big time. Torquay, Exeter, Brighton and Plymouth are the clubs who have benefited from his instinctive finishing.

When this season started he needed ten more League and Cup goals to reach 200. He started with three in the first three games, not bad for a player who insists he is 23, but is in fact 33.

"I'm not worried about records," says Fred. "As long as I am scoring goals I am happy, though I also like to look back and think I played well."

The Binney goal trail began with Torquay United. He had two spells with them and two periods with Devon neighbours Exeter City. At St. James' Park he had a run of 79 goals in 161 appearances and that impressive average of a goal every two games has continued throughout a 331 game League career producing 170 goals.

In 1973 he moved to Brighton and notched 35 League goals in 68 games for the South Coast club. But still no big First Division club

came in for him?

Fred is not bitter about playing in the lower Divisions. "I've had a super time in football and people like Brian Clough and Malcolm Allison have believed in me so that's a credit to me."

In 1977 Fred moved to Argyle, his home town club, on a free transfer. By March, 1978, Plymouth were faced with relegation to Division Four, and Binney was out of the first team.

Then Malcolm Allison arrived at Home Park and he immediately put Binney back in the front line. Fred scored seven times in eleven matches and Argyle avoided relegation.

Last season, free transfer Fred became Plymouth's Player of the Year. He scored 28 goals in 46 appearances, including 26 of Argyle's 67 League goals, a staggering 40 per cent.

Master

Most of those goals came from inside the six yard box. Binney specialises in simply diverting crosses, passes, shots and clearances on to the target. Simple, but an art few strikers master.

Fred admits that some of his goals look lucky, but they all count. He thrives on low early crosses which the likes of Brian Bason and Gary Megson can produce.

Plymouth manager Bobby Saxton has been quoted as saying "Fred will always score goals." But just how long can this popular player continue to hit the net?

"The crowds will turn on me as soon as I stop scoring, though that doesn't worry me," said Fred. If you press him about the future he will insist again that he is only 23 and tell you there are a lot more goals to be scored yet.

Looking to the future he has already opened tea rooms in the picturesque Devon village of Modbury. For now, however, Fred Binney aims to stay among the cream of the League's goal poachers.

GOALLINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. £5 for the Star letter — £2 for every other letter published. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Philip Kennedy of Lisburn, Co. Antrim in Northern Ireland, who wins our Special Prize of £5. He writes:

SHATTERED DREAM

I'M sure I speak for all soccer fans in Ireland (both North and South) when I condemn the irresponsible acts of some of the crowd at the recent European Cup-tie between Dundalk and Linfield (Dundalk being Champions of the Republic, Linfield of the North).

Before the match, many thought the game should not have been played at a time when feelings were running so high.

On the way to the ground, buses carrying Linfield supporters were stoned. Once inside the stadium, small sections of the two bands of supporters went for each others necks. The result was an all-night battle between Gardia (police) and about 200 Linfield fans. The police baton-charged, but were driven back by a continual hail of stones and other missiles.

All this has shattered the dream of an all-Ireland League or international side.

The referee, Pat Partridge, and his linesmen, kept the game flowing and deserve all the praise; so do the Linfield players who appealed to their fans for peace. Also, those Linfield supporters who entered the hooligan mob in an attempt to halt the fighting.

● Football, perhaps more than anything, has brought nations closer to each other. Sadly, it failed this time and one wonders how long the wounds inflicted will take to heal.

Loyalties



FULL marks to Brian Clough for stopping Trevor Francis's wages when he returned from Detroit injured. Trevor must learn where not only his future, but his loyalties lie. RALPH BENHAM, DUBLIN.

● Clough (above) knew Francis was going to Detroit when he signed him. Did he make such stipulations then?

Unsporting Stars

I WAS disgusted at the attitude of the footballers in the recent BBC Superteam contest. They wouldn't accept defeat by the athletes and talked of a moral victory. Some of the terrible attitudes shown by footballers on the pitch came

through and it was a bad advert for the game.

MARK WALLER, SURBITON.

● Athlete Geoff Capes didn't exactly come over too well, either ... but who's going to argue with him?

Unhappy Memories

I SEE Ally MacLeod (below) has been writing his World Cup memoirs. Why go on as if defeat was something to be proud of? That anyone, least of all Ally, would want to drag up all those unhappy memories from Argentina a year later, is crazy. After all, the English don't go around shouting about Bannockburn, do they? Scotland, 1978 World Cup. R.I.P. CATHERINE DOWNIE, GLASGOW.

● I'm sure every Scot would rather look forward, not back to Argentina.



United Bias

NOW that SHOOT columnist Ray Wilkins has left Chelsea for Manchester United, it amazes me that he continues to write for your magazine. You will become very biased towards United, with Ray and Gordon McQueen alternating.

S. HUGHES, BASILDON.

● We feature Ray Clemence each week and we don't have any complaints about that. Like Liverpool, United have followers all over Britain — indeed, throughout the world — and we saw no reason to drop Ray simply because he went to Old Trafford. Anyway, neither Ray nor Gordon writes solely about United and as two of our top internationals we're sure most of SHOOT's readers are in favour of keeping Ray on.



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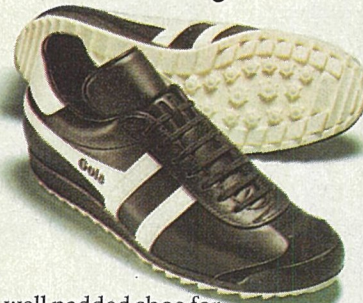
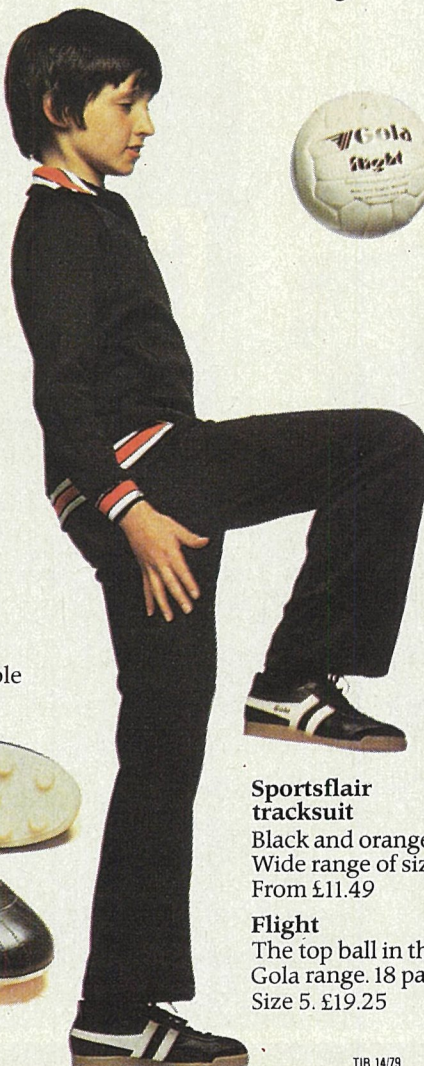
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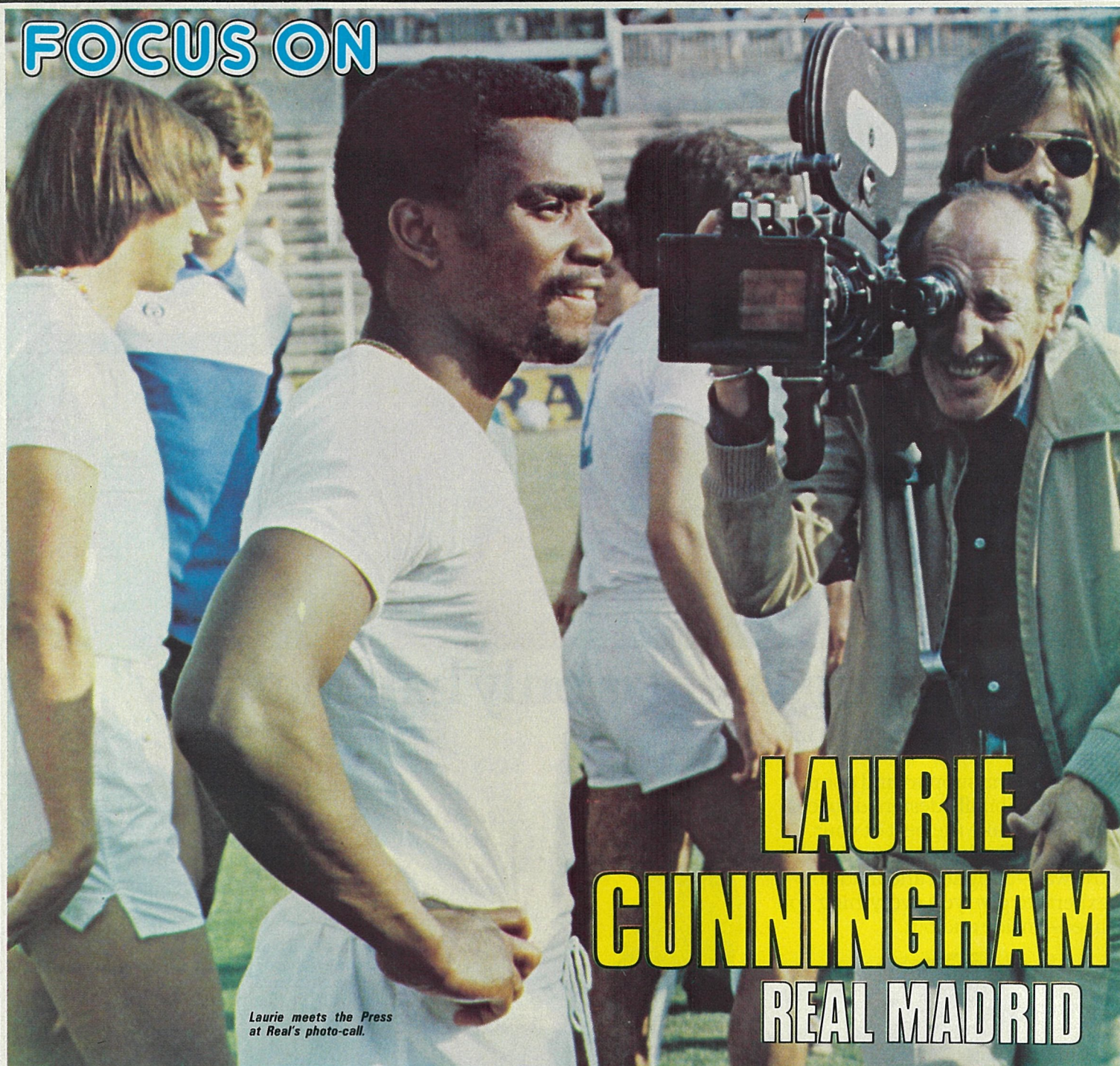
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FOCUS ON



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LAURIE CUNNINGHAM REAL MADRID

FULL NAME: Laurence Paul Cunningham.
BIRTHPLACE: The Whittington Hospital, Archway, London.
BIRTHDATE: 8th March, 1956.
HEIGHT: 5ft. 8ins.
WEIGHT: 11st 5lbs.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Orient and West Bromwich Albion.
MARRIED: No.
CAR: Volvo Sports.
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Too numerous to mention.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: There are lots, but Brazil.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: They're all hard. I prefer to talk about difficult teams rather than opponents.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Full England debut in British Championship v. Wales 1979.
BIGGEST THRILL: Scoring in England Under-21 debut match against Scotland and joining Real Madrid.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Being in England Squad, but not actually playing.

BEST COUNTRIES VISITED: China and Austria.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Most Continental dishes.
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Dancing, classic cars, designing clothes.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Income Tax forms.
FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: Fawlty Towers, The Benny Hill Show, Kenny Everett Video Show.
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Marvin Gaye, Jazz and Blues Singers.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: John Cleese and Diana Ross.
BEST FRIEND: My girl friend, Nikki.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Mr. Cottingham who ran my Sunday afternoon League team.
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Postponed matches.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Under-21 and full caps for England.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To play for England in the World Cup.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: The same as

personal ambition.

IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? A Fashion Designer.

WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Muhammad Ali . . . but I like meeting people.

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FRONT ROW: Ralph Milne, Derek Addison, William Kirkwood, John Holt, Paul Frye, Paul Hegarty, Paul Sturrock, Graeme Payne, Ian Ballantyne, Raymond Stewart (now with West Ham)

SHOOT!

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

DUNDEE UNITED— a breeding ground for English clubs



DUNDEE UNITED manager Jim McLean (above) has complained long and loud about the apathy among football fans around the Tannadice area.

Now, though, there is a joke going around that he has nothing to worry about. He is almost guaranteed a sell-out every match with so many scouts turning up to watch his youngsters.

It's not a joke that brings a smile to the face of the knowledgeable McLean, who encourages youth and has brought on some of the best youngsters in Scottish football in recent years.

However, McLean is clearly fed-up with Dundee United taking the shape of a nursery ground for big-money English clubs, envious of young players such as Paul Hegarty, Paul Sturrock, Davie Dodds, open-to-transfer duo Graeme Payne and David Narey... and of course Under-21 defender Ray Stewart who was recently sold to West Ham for £400,000.

"We spend around six or seven years developing these players, but we are not allowed to get the best out of them," says McLean.

"I don't want this to sound like a Jim McLean problem or a Dundee United problem. It's really Scotland's."

McLean feels there should be a ban put on players leaving Scotland until they reach the age of say 27 or 28. That policy is already adopted in countries such as Yugoslavia and Poland.

United could accept the English interest as a compliment, but despite Stewart's transfer and other possible moves McLean is too busy trying to build a side and not destroy one.

At the start of the season he said: "It's time this team won a trophy. We've waited long enough."

That is only too true. A brief look through United's past shows their honours list sadly barren. They won the Scottish Second Division title twice ('24-'25 and '28-'29), but that is hardly anything to write home about.

They reached the Final of the Scottish Cup seven seasons ago,

but their dream was blown to smithereens as Celtic galloped effortlessly to a 3-0 victory.

The man who led the United attack that sunny afternoon was none other than Andy Gray, of whom many predicted a huge future. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be spent at Tannadice.

When Aston Villa manager Ron Saunders offered £110,000 for the player, who has since moved to Wolves for more than £1 million, four years ago it was reluctantly accepted and United have searched ever since then for a prolific goalscorer.

Many critics feel United would have won the Premier Division title last season if they had had a finisher in their ranks.

Certainly their leading-up play couldn't be faulted. They play scientific football with the emphasis on elegance. United are superb in their skills, but there is little point in having so much possession and not being able to convert it into goals.

Willie Pettigrew was bought recently from Motherwell for £100,000 to help solve that problem.

"I'm not aware of any great pressure on me," he says. "My job has always been to score goals

and that's what I intend doing at Tannadice.

"It was a great move for me. Jim McLean has shown faith in my ability and I obviously want to repay him."

United are still affected by rumours off the field about which club is ready to bid for which player, but they have proved they are ready once and for all to go all out for a major trophy.

Demolished

They prepared for the season with a 3-0 runaway victory over Aston Villa and their former striker Andy Gray watched his old side demolish the English team from the stand.

"I told my Villa team-mates that United were a very good side," he said. "I don't think, however, that they expected them to be that good. That's the best display I have ever seen from a Scottish side."

In their next match United came back from two goals down to beat Spurs 3-2 with one of the goals coming from debut boy Willie Pettigrew. Everything looked rosy and the fans were praising them after their 3-0 win over city rivals Dun-

dee in their opening League match of the season.

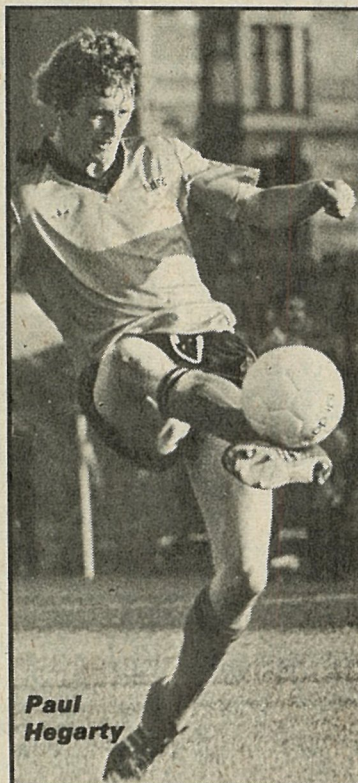
Unfortunately, not all was well with United that day. Only hours before the kick-off against Dundee they agreed to put Narey and Payne, two of their brightest youngsters, on the transfer list.

It's a sad tale that must seem like a recurring nightmare to manager Jim McLean. He must look just down the road at Dens Park, home of Dundee just a corner-kick away, and recall the side they had in the early 60's that won the title and was then ravaged by transfers with players such as Ian Ure, Alan Gilzean and Andy Penman moving on.

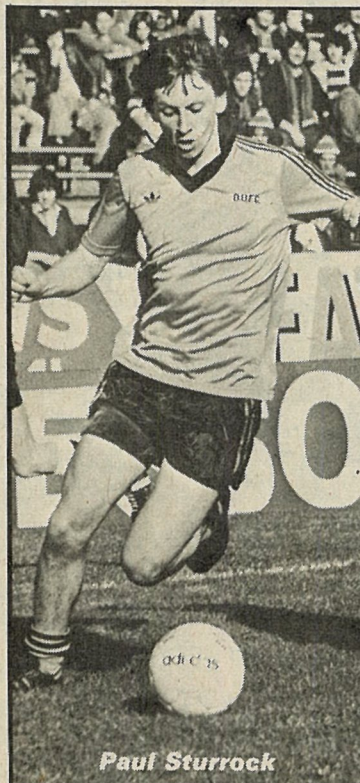
He doesn't want that to happen to his side. The only way he can keep his players happy at Tannadice is to pay them higher wages and to do that the club must attract more fans through the turnstiles.

However, those supporters are unlikely to turn up in great numbers if they see their favourite stars being sold with conveyor-belt speed.

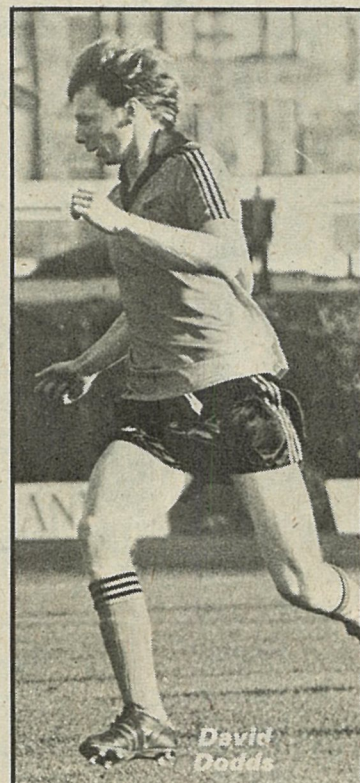
It's a vicious circle, but United boss Jim McLean is not a quitter. He doesn't want to be remembered as a loser. He will not rest until he has completed his task.



Paul Hegarty



Paul Sturrock



David Dodds

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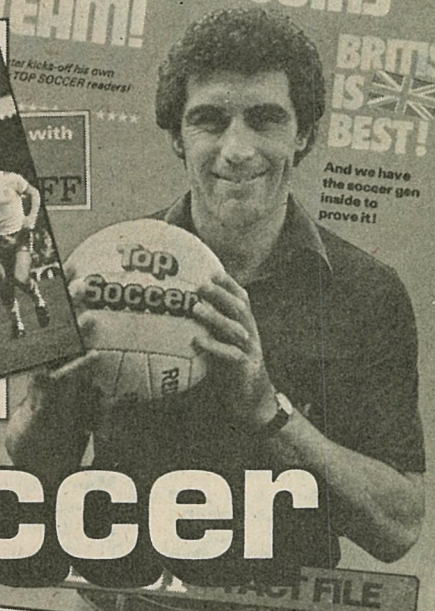
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Stuart Boam (Boro to Newcastle)
Steve Burke (Nottm. For. to Q.P.R.)
Mike Channon (Man. City to Soton)
Joe Cooke (Peterborough to Oxford)
David Cunningham (Villa to Hereford)
Tony Currie (Leeds Utd. to Q.P.R.)
Steve Daley (Wolves to Man. City)
Andy Gray (Aston V. to Wolves)
Brian Greenhoff (Man. Utd. to Leeds U.)
Asa Hartford (Nottm. For. to Everton)
Bob Hazell (Wolves to Q.P.R.)
Gary Heale (Luton to Reading)
Billy Jennings (West Ham to Orient)
Stuart Lee (Stockport to Man. City.)
Peter Lorimer (ex-Leeds U. to York C.)
David McCreery (Man. Utd. to Q.P.R.)



Mike Pejic (above, Everton to Aston Villa)
Gary Peters (Reading to Fulham)
Colin Powell (New England to Charlton)
Tommy Sermani (Blackpool to Torquay)
Gregor Stevens (Leicester C. to Rangers)
Ray Stewart (Dundee U. to West Ham)
Derrick Strickland (Rangers to Leicester C.)
Dave Syrett (Walsall to Peterborough)
Mick Tait (Carlisle to Hull)
Ray Wilkins (Chelsea to Man. Utd.)
Terry Yorath (Coventry C. to Spurs)

SCOTLAND'S FIRST CLASS SECOND DIVISION

QUEEN'S PARK, the only amateur side in Scotland's three top Divisions, are still the proud possessors of a world record that will never be broken.

In the first seven years of their existence they never conceded a goal never mind a game! They might not have played many games and certainly they didn't meet top class opposition, but it is still a record the Hampden club can point to with justifiable pride.

So what is a club with this magnificent background doing languishing in the Scottish Second Division, playing to only a hundred or so fans each week? For a start, do not imply to anyone around the Hampden area that Scotland's third League is third class. Don't even say it is second class.

Queen's Park, the club who did so much to fashion the modern game, mean it when they say they are still involved in top soccer. Names such as Brechin, Stenhousemuir and the like will hardly create a stir in today's sophisticated world. Let's face it, what sort of odds would you get on Cowdenbeath winning the European Cup at any time in the future!

They might be minnows mixing with the mighty, but they aren't afraid to come out fighting when the challenge is thrown down.

Look at the League Cup Second Round second-leg results this season, for a start. Falkirk were actually leading Champions Celtic 1-0, at Parkhead, at the interval, although they eventually lost 4-1. They were far from disgraced, however.

Struggled

Hibs had to go to extra-time before a goal from Tony Higgins beat Montrose at Links Park. Actually, the Easter Road side, beaten Scottish Cup Finalists last season, struggled for long periods over both legs.

In the first-leg in Edinburgh they were drawing 1-1 with only minutes remaining until that man Higgins popped up again with the winner. They surrendered that over the 90 minutes and faced a nail-biting 30 minutes extra-time before eventually getting through.

Meadowbank did better than Coventry and Spurs this season by not losing to Aberdeen, at Pittodrie. They drew 2-2 with goals from John Jobson the highlights of the afternoon.

Albion Rovers drew 2-2 with Partick Thistle, at Firhill, in their first game although narrowly losing 1-0 on their own pitch. Not bad going at all when you consider Thistle had hammered Rangers the previous week.

And that takes us back to Queen's Park. They took on Motherwell, a Premier Division side last season. The little Hampden side had to travel for the first-leg and might have been forgiven for playing for a draw and then trying to complete the job on their own park.

No way! The Spiders — as they have been known for years because of the thin stripes on their jerseys — tore into Ally MacLeod's tattered team and won 4-1.

Hampden boss Eddie Hunter was intelligent enough to say: "That's only part of the job done. Motherwell will get a second chance and we would be fools to think that the tie is finished."

Professional thinking! As it happened Motherwell did win the second-leg... but by only 2-0 and still slid out of the tournament. So, in one afternoon, the Second Division clubs had practically got together to show everyone they were not soccer's version of a scrapheap.



Davie Cooper, one of several top players transferred from Clydebank.

Admittedly the bottom Division was known as a graveyard. Players well past their best headed for this League, but that has all changed this season.

Attendances have fallen while they have risen in the Premier. Comparing the figures of '78-'79 with '77-'78 makes sad reading for the Second Division teams. They have dropped 19,000 paying customers and that is a fair amount in that League.

Last season only goal difference separated Falkirk and Dunfermline in the promotion stakes. Dunfermline went up, Falkirk stayed where they were and Brockville boss Billy Little, now the Queen of the South manager, got the sack.

He knows he was only a decimal point away from being a First Division manager. But that just illustrates just how competitive this League is and directors are now no longer willing to tolerate failure.

Clydebank proved what could be done when they moved from the Second into the First and then straight into the Premier in successive seasons. They attracted a lot of attention and also brought scouts along to Brockville.

In the last two years they have picked up over £350,000 in transfer fees by selling Frank McDougall (£160,000 to St. Mirren), Davie Cooper (£100,000 to Rangers) and Mike Larnach (£100,000 to Newcastle).

So the rewards are there for the ambitious and everyone wants to cash in.

The Second Division does not want to be left behind in the gold rush.

Deeds good for football

IT'S very easy to be critical in football. Hooligans, loud-mouthed managers, vicious tackles, foul language, exorbitant transfer fees and bad referees all capture the headlines.

But if there has been one encouraging feature at the start of the 1979-80 season, it is that going into the new decade there are a lot of good things to admire in our British game.

Take the Norwich City manager John Bond (below) for example. With his side revelling in the unexpected glory of being top of the First Division, he could have been forgiven for rubbing his hands in glee when Coventry goalkeeper Jim Blyth hurt his back in the pre-match kick-about. Bond could have taken advantage of the situation and asked Coventry who had already named their side to field a makeshift goalkeeper.



But being the sportsman he is Bond allowed Coventry to bring in 17-year-old Stephen Murrcott, agreed to the start being delayed, and having seen the young hero defy his side and topple them from the top of the table, praised him for a splendid debut. Exemplary conduct.

On the same day Asa Hartford was making his more publicised debut for Everton. And thereby hangs another tale or two.

Hartford had been given only a three-match chance by Nottingham Forest to prove himself, when assistant manager Peter Taylor told him the club was willing to sell him! Within minutes he was chatting to Gordon Lee and just over 48 hours later his whirlwind romance with Forest was over and he was an Everton player.

Even Asa's arrival at Everton was unusual. On his way to the ground to play against Aston Villa, Asa spotted the floodlights and headed straight for them.

He was astonished to find hardly any supporters — and a near empty ground. It was then he discovered he'd actually gone to Anfield by mistake!

Meanwhile in London the bus carrying the Preston North End team to their match at Fulham broke down, and again people rallied to the call giving players lifts to the ground at Craven Cottage to get them there on time.

A few days earlier the often-criticised supporters of Queens Park Rangers earned a bouquet for themselves by singing the praises of Fourth Division Bradford City.

Although their own team managed only a thin 2-1 victory over the Yorkshire club the London supporters stayed to the end to applaud the impressive visitors off the pitch.

All these instances of good deeds can only be good for the image of our game. Let's hope it continues.

I ALWAYS enjoyed playing against Manchester United when I was with Chelsea. The special magic associated with the club made it more than "just another game" and it's been interesting these past few weeks to find out how different the United lads are as team-mates as opposed to opponents.

I rate young Gary Bailey as one of the top goalkeepers in the League coming off his line. Even Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton are hard-pushed to better him. In a few years England will be looking for a successor to the "big two" and I'd say Gary and Chris Woods of Q.P.R., are neck-and-neck for the job right now. Few clubs have a special coach for goalkeepers, which is surprising as that position is really the only specialised one in the side.

Harry Gregg, a former United favourite, spends a lot of time with Gary and the youngster is certainly benefiting from Harry's help.

Jimmy Nicholl can play anywhere along the back-four because he reads the game so well. He likes to get forward whenever he can and often I find the Irish star with a long cross-field pass.

He tries to get into the last third of the pitch as often as possible, yet at the same time always seems to be back in defence when needed.

One person I'd definitely prefer to play with than against is Gordon McQueen. He's a man-mountain in the mould of Micky Droy at Chelsea. Gordon is one of a handful of defenders who you can pencil in

to score ten goals a season, such is his danger at corners and free-kicks. In the air he's virtually unbeatable, and for a big feller is surprisingly quick off the mark.

He and Martin Buchan combine well and are as good a pair of central defenders as you'll find anywhere. Martin is a bit of an introvert, a quiet person who seems a little wary of people. He leads by example rather than vocally and it's a shame he has never managed to establish himself with Scotland as he has with United.

I believe for reasons best known to himself he turned down the Scotland captaincy before the World Cup and he's also been unlucky with injuries at crucial times.

At left-back, Arthur Albiston came to our attention in the 1977 F.A. Cup Final when he was supposed to have been United's weak link against Liverpool.

Anfield fans won't need reminding that Arthur had a first-class game at Wembley and since then has hardly looked back. Like Jimmy Nicholl, Arthur likes to attack and hits a good ball with his left peg.

Steve Coppell is no stranger. We've played together for England many times. Playing in the same

'The team-mates

"Joe Jordan gets to grips with Southampton's David Peach."



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I hated playing against'

team every week should improve our understanding even more. Stevie is probably our most versatile player. He starts out as a winger, but gets through so much work it's impossible to put a label on him. For England, he's taken over the perpetual-motion role previously held by Alan Ball. Steve has also scored some important goals in the past year.

Before I arrived at United, I was warned that Sammy McIlroy was a bit of a luxury. Great going forward, but doesn't do his share of defensive work, they said. How unfair. The same has been said about Trevor Brooking, a fabulous midfielder in my opinion.

People expect too much from a schemer these days. Few players can "do it all" and only Johan Nees-

kens springs to mind as a true all-round midfielder player who defends as well as he attacks.

Sammy is an excellent player and one of the few Northern Ireland stars to shine when we beat them 4-0 at Wembley in the European Championship.

Micky Thomas is an endless worker, who never seems to run out of energy. He rarely strays from the left and I've lost count of the times I've seen him win the ball just outside his own penalty-area. Micky

surprised us a few weeks ago by getting married.

Apparently he's been engaged for some while and the other boys kept ribbing him about this, saying it was time he took the plunge.

When we were down to play Arsenal we started to joke about this and he turned round and said: "How do you know I'm not already married?" We laughed this off... and to our amazement read in the papers the next day that he was married the week before. Micky said he didn't want any fuss...

As a Chelsea player I used to see quite a lot of Lou Macari in midfield, usually from a distance, because the guy is so fast that I could never get too near him. This season, little Lou has played up-front, in the absence of Jimmy Greenhoff, and his speed has enabled him to open his goal-account quickly.

Lou arrived at Old Trafford from Celtic as a striker, although like Steve Coppell, Lou does so much work you can't say he plays in only one position.

Lou and Joe Jordan have combined well, with the former Leeds man working unselfishly for his teammates, as usual. Joe is often accused of not scoring as many goals as he should for a central striker.

Perhaps... but you can't find anyone who does more unselfish running than Joe. I remember against Middlesbrough earlier this season Joe made for the near post and three Boro defenders went with

him, leaving Lou free to nod one home.

Off the field, Joe is a very friendly guy, but I must admit that whilst playing, without soccer's most famous front teeth, I don't like to be on the wrong end of his wrath!

I haven't seen too much of Joe's recognised striking partner, Jimmy Greenhoff. He hasn't been around, being advised to rest the pelvic injury he picked up last season.

From what I've seen of young Andy Ritchie so far, I'm sure he's going to develop into a fine striker.

Another youngster who's done well when called upon is Steve Paterson, nicknamed Big Bud, although I don't have the faintest idea why. Steve started out as a defender, then moved into midfield and last season was tried in attack, where he responded with almost 30 goals in the reserves.

This Saturday (September 22nd) we travel to Molineux for what is almost a SHOOT reunion, with myself, Gordon McQueen and Andy Gray meeting up.

I'm told Andy and Gordon have had some great tussles from Villa/United clashes and Britain's most expensive player will be keen to make up for the goals he lost last season through injury.

Wolves have a revival under John Barnwell and the evergreen Emlyn Hughes can only help the "new" Molineux team.

Join me in two weeks when I'll be looking back at England's European Championship tie against Denmark.

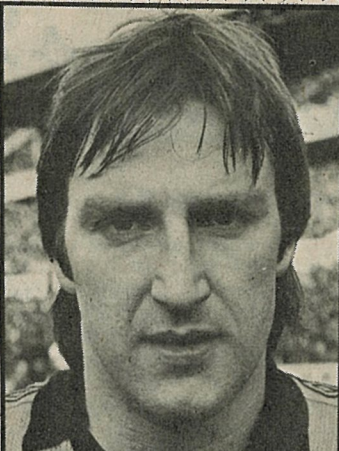
Ray Wilkins
WRITES
FOR YOU



"Micky Thomas was secretly married."

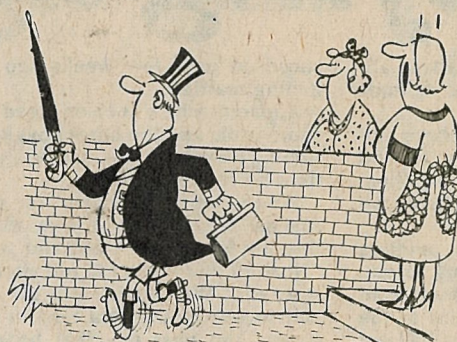
"Lou Macari has been playing up-front this season."

Ray Wilkins

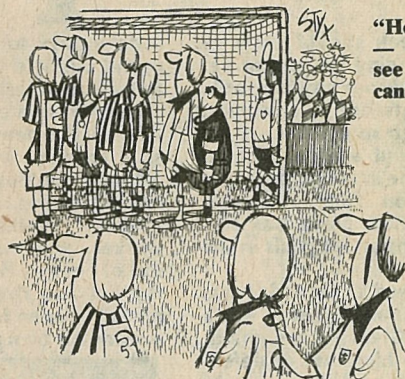


This week Manchester City's £1,437,500 record signing from Wolves, Steve Daley selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"Ever since SHOOT called him a very high class ref"



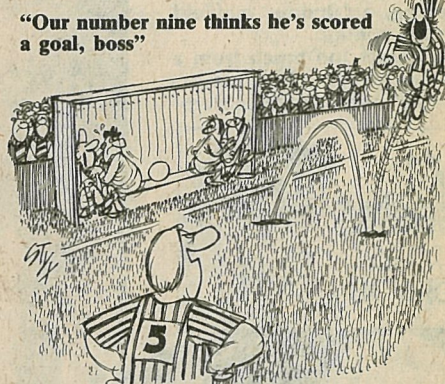
"Here, Bert — can you see what I can?"



"I believe you are taking sponsorship too far number nine"



"Remember asking me to scout out a new player who could shoot with both feet?"



"Our number nine thinks he's scored a goal, boss"

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WILL JIMMY GREENHOFF BE FORCED TO QUIT?

Final but Greenhoff is the first to admit that it was a gamble that failed.

He played one more game but suffered a bad abductor tear in the groin that added to his worries. Greenhoff lasted just ten minutes on the club's pre-season tour and was ordered to take a complete break from training and playing while his team-mates opened the season without him.

Now he waits anxiously to see how much football there is left in him, but consoles himself with the thought that he really served Manchester United well last season with a tally of 17 goals — five of them taking The Reds through to Wembley in the F.A. Cup.

Says Jimmy: "I've been a professional footballer some 15 years and this is the first time I have won a Player of the Year award. It's perhaps ironic that it should happen when my career is drawing to a close."

There must inevitably be regrets though and one of the biggest for Jimmy Greenhoff must certainly be on the international front.

"I've had a handful of Under-23 games for England but that's all. I don't know why I've never won a full cap except that Don Revie perhaps ignored me because I was one of the players he sold at Leeds," he said.

He has also played for the Football League and was selected for a centenary international against Wales but had to withdraw because of a club commitment.

But generally it has been left to brother Brian to win caps for the Greenhoff family.

Jimmy now says: "It has in fact given me as much pleasure to see Brian playing for England as it would have given me. We are a close family. Some people might think it's sloppy but I see no reason to hide it. Brian is a great competitor."

And that is a tribute that applies no less to Jimmy Greenhoff as he faces up to an injury that threatens to end his career.

JIMMY Greenhoff faces the toughest season of his long career.

A deep-seated pelvic injury is still troubling him and robbed him of his place in the Manchester United team that kicked-off the season.

But if his days in top-class soccer are now numbered, no one can rob him of the distinction of bowing out in a blaze of glory.

For the Old Trafford fans have voted Greenhoff their Player of the Year for his sterling efforts for The Reds last season.

His brilliant leadership of the attack, and the goals that made him United's top scorer, won him the Supporters Club's award as their favourite player, ahead of stars like Steve Coppell, Gordon McQueen, Joe Jordan, Lou Macari, Sammy McIlroy and Martin Buchan.

It makes his injury all the harder to accept as time runs out for a man who has played top-class soccer for 15 years with Leeds United, Birmingham City, Stoke City and now Manchester United.

The trouble started early in April last season at Norwich with a deep-seated groin strain that developed into the kind of baffling pelvic injury that often affects older players.

He fought his way back into the team despite a number of breakdowns in time for the F.A. Cup



MICKEY NUTTON'S SPECIAL TEACHER

MAYBE it was inevitable that young Mickey Nutton would make the top in football. Nutton, who played some important matches for Chelsea near the end of last season, had a rather special teacher when he was just 11-years-old.

Nutton went to Ingram Secondary School near his South London home. At the age of 11 his football teacher was Bobby Houghton, coach of Malmoe, Nottingham Forest's opponents in last season's European Cup Final.

Houghton made it to the European Cup Final in the same year that his young protegee finally played in the First Division.

Nutton got into the Chelsea side just before last Christmas, making his first team debut in the game against Bristol City at Stamford Bridge. That big day was the culmination of eight years of effort.

Nutton became associated with Chelsea when he was just 11. Houghton recommended the youngster to his friend Dario Gradi, then at Chelsea.

Nutton was asked along for mid-week practice games and started by playing with the hopeful boys at the club. That led to appearances in the Under 13 side; then apprentice forms, youth forms and eventually a full professional signature.

"I suppose you could say I really went through the mill for eight

years, just going from grade to grade," said Nutton. "It was, of course, a great thrill to make it to the top and finally play in the first team."

Nutton, 5 ft. 11 ins. and 11 stone, played alongside big Mickey Droy at the heart of the Chelsea defence. Very inexperienced by First Division standards, but Droy's assistance helped him settle down.

He played 14 games in the senior side, facing some of England's top strikers. Yet the experience clearly didn't bother the youngster. "I enjoyed every moment of it," he said. "There was pressure because some of those players are terrific; they wouldn't be where they are if they weren't good enough."

"I reckon facing Kenny Dalglish was my toughest task. Electric, elusive and liable to lose you. He is good at getting on the blind side and making your job more difficult. And he turns in no space whatsoever, so you can never relax against him."

Nutton says that he received most help in his long climb towards the top, from former Chelsea manager Ken Shellito. "Ken and Dario Gradi used to help me and encourage me a lot in training," he said. Yet, by another

of those ironic quirks of fate, it wasn't Shellito who gave the youngster his first team debut but Danny Blanchflower, who resigned recently, the man who replaced Ken Shellito as manager at Stamford Bridge.

"I hope I didn't let anyone down," said Nutton. "I certainly enjoyed it and was fairly happy with the way I performed. But I can improve my game from every point of view and that's what I am now aiming to do. I want to get a regular first team place at Chelsea and until I've done that, any other ambitions or hopes for the future can wait."

"The atmosphere in the dressing room was good last season, even though we were struggling for most of the time. In fact, it was much better than I thought it might be. We are all expecting to do well in the Second Division and I just hope I can now play a big part in getting Chelsea back into the First Division."

"Mind you, we faded after a good start and will need to get more consistency in our game if we are to clinch promotion this season."

Nutton is one of several young players former boss Danny Blanchflower blooded in a desperate bid to avoid relegation last term. That struggle proved to be in vain but if the youngsters like Nutton continue to show such promise, Chelsea's future looks like being a successful one.

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

1. Laurie Cunningham (Real Madrid), Kevin Keegan (Hamburger SV) or Dave Watson (Werder Bremen) were refused permission by their club to join the England squad for their recent European Championship clash with Denmark at Wembley?

2. At the end of this season, the Football League will raise the retiring age for referees from 46 to what?

3. The Football League were in the news again when they decided not to allow the Football League Cup Final to be televised live. Why did they change their decision?

4. After paying more than £1 million for Steve Daley from Wolves, Manchester City splashed out another £100,000 for Stuart Lee from which Fourth Division club?

5. Can you name the Norwich City striker who turned down a £70,000 move to Carlisle United?

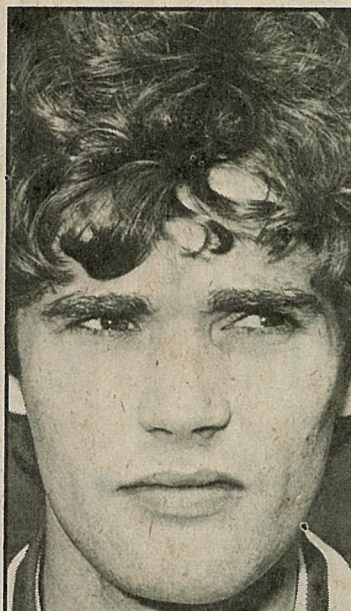
6. Former Manchester United goal-keeper, Alex Stepney (below), released by his American club Dallas Tornados, has joined non-League Enfield, Scarborough or Altrincham as player-coach?



7. York City have signed which former Leeds United and Scotland winger?

8. Which two clubs would be in opposition if Peter Bonetti saved a penalty from Clive Allen?

9. In a surprise £150,000 move, Gregor Stevens (below) left Leicester City for which Scottish Premier Division club?



10. Peter Osgood played his first League game of the season for Chelsea against which club at Stamford Bridge recently?

LEAGUE CUP

The Second Round, second-leg ties of the League Cup were played recently. Can you answer the following questions about the games.

11. The shock of the round must have been Arsenal's 7-0 thrashing of Leeds at Highbury. Who was the hat-trick hero for The Gunners?

12. Which other London club also hit seven goals on the same evening?

13. Liverpool progressed through when they beat Tranmere 4-0 at Anfield. What was the half-time score?

14. Which club did holders Nottingham Forest knock out 7-2 on aggregate?

15. True or false? After losing the first-leg 2-1 at home, Bolton won through when they beat Southend 2-0 at Roots Hall?

ANSWERS

1. Cunningham, 2. 47, 3. By playing a League programme on the Friday night before the final, the money clubs would receive in TV coverage would not compensate for the drop in crowds, 4. Stockport, 5. Keith Robson, 6. Altrincham, 7. Peter Lorimer, 8. Dundee United and Queens Park Rangers, 9. Rangers, 10. Birmingham City, 11. Alan Sunderland, 12. Crystal Palace, 13. 0-0, 14. Blackburn Rovers, 15. False — 2-1 on aggregate.

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DOWN:— (2) Scot. (3) Gresty. (4) On. (5) Wrung. (6) Ash. (7) Steve. (8) Tony. (10) Of. (11) Emu. (13) Rapturous. (15) Rivera. (18) Pye. (20) Souness. (22) Imp. (24) Surf. (26) Edgar. (29) Eats. (30) Sale. (32) Rap. (33) Pen.

Jumbled Name: SAMMY NELSON.

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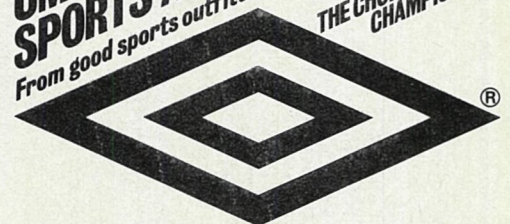
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THEY'VE been SHOOT columnists for a while, but last month Gordon McQueen and Ray Wilkins joined forces at club level when the former Chelsea star signed for Manchester United for £850,000. Gordon was on hand to welcome his SHOOT colleague to Old Trafford . . . Now you can keep in touch with the United scene each week with Gordon and Ray in Britain's top-selling soccer magazine.



SHOOT!